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Tuesday January 30 1996

me Guardian

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

Mark Slouka on the limits of cyberspace

Life, but not as loo we know it

Guardian 2 with European weather



Education

Can Labour improve inner city schools?

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Whatever happened to Thatcher's lieutenant?

bate in this country to

say that Labour are sup-

porting the criminals. I

will not engage in that

type of politics. I do not



PM throws down gauntlet

Blair attacked on crime 'hypocrisy'

Michael White Political Editor

OHN Major last night took the gloves off in his fight back against Tony Blair and Labour Party of repeatedly undermining the Govern-ment's efforts to deter, cap-ture and punish criminals who "flout our laws and

spurn our moral code." Hoping to capitalise on last week's Conservative charges of hypocrisy over Harriet Harman's choice of school for her son, Mr Major insisted that the Opposition's res-ponse was the same on law

"No matter what they [Labour] say about crime, they persistently do some-thing else. Day by day, Labour show themselves in their real colours. And the colour they reveal is not soft focus blue, it is the colour of envy and hypocrisy," said Mr Major. "I don't believe in a harsh

"I don't believe in a harsh society, but I do believe in a self-disciplined society," he explained. Tory officials made it plain later that Mr Major hopes to wrong-foot Mr Blair by challenging him to match his tough rhetoric and help to get the forfirenning. help to get the forthcoming Criminal Justice Bill through

As the Labour leader was making his own plea for a fresh commitment to innercity renewal and community values last night, the shadow chancellor. Gordon Brown, led a furious counter-attack against what he called the smears, dirty tricks and spu-rious accusations which will come from "the Tory lie ma-chine" as election day

Mr Major must have known he would be accused of "di-minishing his office" if he appeared to endorse Michael Heseltine's jibe that Labour is "the villain's friend."

Though his language was milder, the Prime Minister used a Conservative Political Centre (CPC) lecture in London to associate himself with it and with Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, in his clash with senior judges over tackling the crime wave.
In a taunt directed at Mr Blair's best known slogan, he suggested that Labour is still too concerned with the rights

Angry words over criminal records "Since 1979, burglary has increased by 160 per 'It debases public de-

'lt's true. The fact is they have consistently opposed the changes we have made. There are villains behind bars today who would be walking free if Labour had their way.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, speaking yesterday.

tims and with insisting that | automatic life sentences for | "absolutely everything is res-ponsible for crime" except the people who commit it.

Punishment is not a dirty word. In my book, being tough on crime means being tough on criminals."
Mr Major confirmed that
the controversial package un-

veiled by the Home Secretary at last October's Tory conference, including a curb on Tory record." intend to get into the John Prescott, gutter with Mr Major Labour deputy leader, to Michael Heseltine in the Commons yesterday.

emerge in a white paper in April or May.

With Labour co-operation, it could be law by the autumn, aides said, in a clear hint that ministers will use it

serious second offences, will

cent, theft from vehicles

and violent crime by 400

per cent. That's the real

by nearly 200 per cent

to prove Labour feebleness. Though Mr Major told his tion Secretary, Gillian She-phard, was reviewing "sancdistract from the Conserva-

and his Cabinet." Tony Blair, campaigning of envy and hypocrisy." in Hemsworth yesterday. including powers of detention | tives' record - a 160 per cent and exclusion - there was little new of substance in his repetition of earlier pledges to per cent more violent crime since 1979, as John Prescott

What was sharper was the tone of his rhetoric, designed, some MPs thought, both to out-tough New Labour and to

build five secure training cen-tres for 12 to 14-year-olds and to put 5,000 more police on the

eat. Both face budgetary

ounce of honesty or common sense is to attack with vigour the conditions in which crime breeds and at the same time When it came to the last require serious punishment,' he said. Criminal Justice Act . . . what did Labour do? Mr Major's speech lacked social context other than the They abstained. Day by

day, Labour show themneed to pass on moral values selves in their real and to stop children going down the "slippery slope" which starts with truancy. colours. And the colour they reveal is not soft

"For every crime there's a focus blue. It's the colour victim. For that victim, that crime isn't a dry statistic. It's something personal." he said. John Major last night "For every crime, there's a criminal. Not a product of society, but an individual increase in burglary and 400 who has made a conscious de-

cision to harm someone for personal gain. And every said in exchanges with Mr Heseltine at Question Time. crime is wrong."
Last night, Jack Straw, In his speech at Southwark Cathedral last night, Mr Blair made only a passing refer-ence to crime and the "Blade shadow home secretary, said that after 17 years Mr Major's remarks amounted to "a monemental admission of fail-Runner scenario" of fortress communities emerging if it ure," notable only for their complacency. was not tackled

"The only strategy with an



From left: Margi West, Philomena Kelly, Christine Winter and Maria Martine

We'll keep good work rolling over, say £10m winners

RADING members of a syndicate of 33 council workers who scooped £10 million on the National Lottery yesterday pledged to stay at their posts, help-ing the homeless find accommodation in north

ners, who each receive a £304,724 share of the rollover jackpot, it was almost a normal Monday, interviewing applicants who

nowhere to go.

But the mood at Camden's homeless persons unit was one of jubilation, reinforced by a determina-tion to continue their work. One of the syndicate did not realise he had won until he arrived at the office

Asked whether anyone had taken the day off to cel-ebrate, assessment officer Margie West told a hastily convened Camelot press

had come in off the streets near King's Cross and had What Camden could do with a £10m windfall

For £10 million, Camden coun- | repair programme on the 60

☐ Run three secondary

who need you.

☐ Complete two-thirds of the

homeless section you have to be committed. You can't

Christine Winter, man-ager of the unit which has

special schools in the borough ☐ Build 40 new mursery classes and provide 1,000 places for the under fives.

been commended in the

Charter Mark awards, added: "It's highly stressful work, but no one is talking

□ Accommodate 1.650 families for a year in emergency bed and breakfast hostels.

☐ Repair and decorate 2.500

joined the subscription syn dicate, which picked and paid for the lines Not all the 40-strong unit | nonetheless been 'de-

Punctuation was even shak

ier. Even with what Mr Wells

leagues' good fortune. Even their homeless clients had congratulated them. But behind the cham-

pagne photo-opportunity at the Hilton Hotel, comparisons were being made in the Labour-controlled council about how the prize money might have been

"The £10 million is half as big again as the £6.8 million allocation this year to renovate council property," said council leader, Richard Arthur.

Worst words

Unemployment linked to bad spelling as survey shows two out of three adults fail simple tests

WO-THIRDS of adults, including more than half of graduates, cannot spell everyday words like "accommoda-tion", according to a survey published by the Basic Skills

words like "receive", "sin-cerely" or "apologise", while more than half had trouble with "necessary" and "imme-

Alan Wells, director of the agency, said standards of spelling, punctuation and ability to fill in forms were worse than he had feared.

The survey of 1,000 adults published yesterday found a

link between bad spelling and unemployment.
Coincidentally, employers
yesterday called for basic literacy skills to be made a priority in schools and second-ary pupils coached in letter

writing and interview skills.

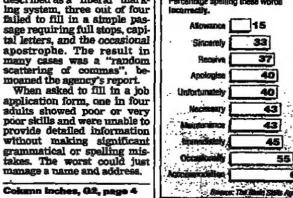
A report from industry in
Education said £8 billion
would be saved if young people's "employability" was developed. Less concentration on the national curriculum and more on personal quali-ties was needed.

Mr Wells said many em-loyers automatically ployers rejected application forms containing spelling errors or poor punctuation.
"There is a case for stress

ing spelling and basic maths purely to get young people over the hurdle of getting into the job market. We don't do people any favours by being dishonest and telling people those skills do not matter. "It's not too much to expect that everyone should have a good grasp of spelling and punctuation," he said. Schools had "taken their eye off the ball" for a time, al-

though teachers were re-in-troducing spelling tests. The 16 to 24 age group educated during the Thatcher years were consistently worse that their elders. The agency concluded that its estimate that one in six adults had its

application form, one in four adults showed poor or very poor skills and were unable to provide detailed information without making significant grammatical or spelling mis-takes. The worst could just



Electric supply 'at the limit' lion electricity consumers in

Chris Barrie

RITAIN'S electricity system came close to collapse yesterday for the third time in six months after several power stations closed by gas shortages and demand for energy

neared record levels. As recriminations broke out within the electricity and gas industries over who was to blame and whether such a fiasco had been inevitable, officials at the National Grid yesterday confirmed that the system had faced "excep-tional circumstances" with the abrupt closure of two power stations and the unavailability of gas-fired plant

due to gas short Yesterday the Grid rescheduled its remaining stations to avoid blacking out the 23 mil-

It said that peak demand of 48,400 megawatts in the early evening was just short of the all-time record set last Thursday but had been met with a normal margin of security "and some to spare

But the events left spread concern that the Grid could become incapable of meeting peak demands for power in winter months due to closure of old coal-fired plant and its replacement with new gas-fired plant. This unease was reinforced by the Grid's apparent lack of preparation for coping with panic about the prospect of power

Describing the change to gas as "complete folly", Tony Cooper, general secretary of the Engineers and Managers turn to page 3, column 6

"How to Look Sexy, Make Friends and Manage Your Boss" **People Watching**

cuts.

"The ubiquitous media doc has done it yet again: this time turning his talents for producing sparkling gems of information in rapid-fire sequence to the field of body language and private habits. As always, he makes his subject both personally relevant and of

practical use. Here's how to judge people by the Christmas cards they send, the bags they carry or the cars they drive, plus how to manipulate your doctor, appear sexy or make a rival uneasy and a host of other tips too. Once you start to browse you would have to be a hermit not to find it utterly unputdownable"

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Sketch

words doctored



Simon Hoggart

EADERS may not know this, but Mr Peter Man-delson — MP for Hartlepool and principal confidant of Tony Blair — has written a book about the future of the Labour Party. The gist seems to be that it ought to be more

Mr Mandelson is anxious for the book to appear in this newspaper so as to reach the widest possible audience. Last week his publishers. Faber & Faber, named their sum: £500.000.

This is probably more than the Guardian can afford. In fact it's more than we could pay for the authenticated memoirs of God. (Chapter IX: Satan and Myself, A Differ-

ence of Emphasis). Fortunately, following neotiations, the asking price for the Mandelson book has fallen sharply and will no doubt settle somewhere between the half-million and my own suggestion, 37p.

In the meantime we were hugely privileged in the Com-mons to bear the author make a rare on-the-record intervention. It was brief, but at the regular fee of £100 per word, worth £6.400. We felt as if we had asked for a breakfast egg. and been served one by

Of course, such a short question could only give us a mere soupcon of the delights to come in the book. But, as the French say, "un oeuf is as good as a feast."

Here is what he said: "Following your descent into the campaign gutter yesterday . . . will you give an undertaking that these abuses will not be allowed to continue, as the Tories' lies and smears against Labour mount as the lection continues, as inevitably they will?"

Some ignorant people might think those words were just another example of ungram-matical, semi-literate, party political abuse. But then there are some people who, offered a glass of Ch. Margaux '64, would ask for a nice cup of tea

Mr Heseltine, to whom the superbly hand-crafted words were addressed, is clearly one such. He replied boorishly: "I know Mr Blair talks only to you, but I didn't realise he would send you here to eclipse his own party leader!

"And nobody has brought more professional skill to the debasement of British public life than you!"
Mr Mandelson smiled,

silently. We yearned to hear his devastating reply, but none of us could afford it.

This all came in the middle of the worst-tempered Deputy Time ever. Tory MPs had all been instructed by the whips to ask the same questions in different words.

Tim Yeo, a man desperate to re-ingratiate himself after his classic love-child scandal, accused Labour of shedding 'crocodile tears for the victims of crime merely to conceal their real sympathy, which is for the criminals!"

Labour MPs (they cannot get quite as angry with Hezza as they wish; he is too much o a well-loved music hall turn) demanded to know why crime had doubled in the period of

The answer, according to Mr Heseltine and his colleagues, is because Labour MPs voted against various crime prevention measures which became law, but failed to work only because the Labour Party did not vote for them at the time.

This requires sophisticated criminological analysis: "I would not normally wish to mug this old lady for the con-tents of her handbag, but the Opposition's refusal to support statutory appeals against lenient sentences sends a clea message to me and my sort that I'll get away with it. So, give it 'ere or I'll kick your head in.'

Blaming crime on 17 years of Labour misrule may be a pretty desperate tactic, but it's all the Tories have got. Except of course, for Harriet

What is so remarkable is that for Mr Mandelson to make his money by the welltried Tory means, we would have to table no fewer than 500 parliamentary questions. Display of military pyrotechnics deepens unease in Hong Kong over role of elite mainland regiment

Money-spinning China calls with chants of kill

Andrew Higgins in Hong Kong

HRUSTING bayo-"kill, kill", the People's Liberation Army displayed its might to Hong Kong tycoons yesterday in the first encounter between the money and the muscle that will decide the territory's fate after 1997. It was a curious start to what was billed as a drive to win the hearts and minds of a population disaffected by the 1989 Tianaumen Square mas-sacre. The elite Red First Reg-

year, engaged in noisy mock combat in the border boom-town of Shenzhen. The multi-billionaire, Li Kashing, and other Hong Kong notables on the power-ful Beijing-appointed prepara-tory committee for handover watched as a helicopter strafed a road and troops fired machineguns, mortars

and fiame throwers.

Helmeted soldiers in white gloves lunged with bayonets, screaming menace in Manda-rin, still an alien tongue in Cantonese Hong Kong.

Cheung Man-kwong, a Democratic Party member of Hong Kong's legislative council, warned that fear of the PLA would cause "panic in the community" and asked Brit-ain to seek clarification from China on the military's role after 1997.

The pyrotechnics in Shenzhen, which dominated Hong Kong television news last night, coincided with a campaign by Beijing-funded media to calm unease about the intentions of the PLA troops who will raise the Chinese flag on July 1 next year. They will replace a dimin-ished British force now numbering about 3,000. "Hong Kong compatriots

please put your hearts at ease," read a banner headline yesterday in Ta Kung Pao, a leading Communist Party mouthpiece in the colony. Troops selected for duty in Hong Kong, the paper said, were tall, well educated, often computer-literate, mostly English speaking, and fans of Cantonese karaoke, whose Motherland's Hong Kong and



Military manoeuvres . . . Troops of the People's Liberation Army show off their paces to Hong Kong notables

traces its origins to the Autumn Harvest Uprising Mao Zedong's bloody and hungled attempt to incite a peasant revolt in 1927. It later saw action against Japan in the second world war and against United Nations and British troops, in the

ence to the territory's official of the Hong Kong garrison, flower. comprising air, naval and The Red First Regiment ground units, will be Major-General Liu Zhenwu, aged 51 from Hunan province. No aspect of Hong Kong's

transfer of sovereignty cause more anxiety than the role of the PLA, whose assault on Tiananmen Square on June 4 1989 brought hundreds of thousands on to the streets of Hong Kong in protest. is from whom? No one seri-"Hong Kong people watch- ously expects the Philippines

China vows to disband, "Chinese officials say the purpose

of the troops — up to 10,000 by some estimates — is to pro-tect Hong Kong. The question is from whom? No one seri-

ing television saw the so-called People's Army shooting the people in the nation's capital city," said Martin Lee, leader of the Democratic Party, the biggest group in an elected legislature, which China yows to dishend "China to attack Hong "turmoil"—the term he used in 1989 to describe peaceful student-led protests.

The Basic Law, the territory's post-1997 constitution. Stipulates that the PLA may be called on "when necessary" be called on "when necessary" by the government of the Hong Kong energial administration. The term he used in 1989 to describe peaceful student-led protests.

Hong Kong special adminis-trative region to assist in the maintenance of public order and disaster relief Deng Xiaoping, China's ailing leader, defined the trip-wire for PLA intervention as against a run after the report. to defend the local currency

Talwan. China declined to comment on the report. Dealers in the foreign

wan's central bank intervened

First night

Viewing art as a voyeur

Robert Clark

Imagined Communities Oldham Art Gallery

N THE throng of today's Internet village, just what does an artist have to do to get noticed? Quite a lot, if you believe the Parisian, Sophie

This artist, whose work is part of a strong touring show hich runs in Oldham until March 24, posed as a chamber maid to sneak snaps of hotel

guests' bedrooms. She broke several taboos, entering the rooms and secretly unpacking the occu-pants' personal belongings, ar-ranging them, photographing them and writing down the ob-servations which are framed across the gallery wall: "The drawer is stuffed with hand-kerchiefs, medication for a deficient pancreas and Gauloise cigarettes . . . I empty the handbag on the floor: sugar

cubes. Tampax, pink lipstick . . . and an agenda. On the first page I read: In the event of my death, everything I own will This might seem like voy-

eurism, but the work gets to the heart of the artist's detached perspective and social alienation. Calle's work appears in a South Bank touring show one of Britain's more imagina-

tive young curators. It aims to address questions such as has the image of the artist as heroic outcast finally dissolved with the mists of romantic modernism? And, in the age of the Internet, what place is there for such tradi-

tional media as painting and sculpture? New Yorker Gary Simmons

photo-works with the back street culture of graffiti and rap. A photographed black kid slicks his hair in front of a heraldic painting blazing the slogan "Wrong nigga to fuck with". Such images of a mar-ginalised yet cohesive and resistant culture are set in contrast to the artist's blurred chalkboard drawings of semiabstract insecurity.
Tim Rollins and KOS (Kids

of Survival) emerge from the same New York streets to infiltrate and reinvigorate the established culture of posh literary classics. The drawn heads of Major, Reagan, Thatcher and Bush are perched atop various beastly bodies. The drawings are scrawled into the pages of Animal Farm, glued together to make a satiric frieze. Russian artists Komar and

Melamid transmit across the Internet the kitsch results of a survey into national popular media dreams. The American Dream is reduced to a chocolate box image of George Washington wandering lost around a pretend frontier

landscape. In contrast, Giuseppe Penlandings, from Halifax's Dean Clough, are more solid and subtle. Indentations made by years of weary treading by workers animate the dead metal with a poignant air of collective melancholy. It is an affirmation of the role of the artist in a world where keyboard operatives have yet to make ordinary workers

nuclear test programme

Nex Duval Smith in Paris

RESIDENT Jacques Chirac announced the "definitive end" to France's nuclear testing programme last night, implying that he had been swayed only by military data, not by six months of worldwide

Twenty-four hours after the sixth and biggest nuclear explosion in the South Pa-cific, he said: "Thanks to the completion of the final series of tests, France will have at its disposal a durable weapon which is reliable and modern. The safety of our country and of our children is assured," he told television viewers in a

live broadcast. At the end of a six-month period in which France has suffered trade boycotts and been villified by much of the world, Mr Chirac said: "Today I feel I have accom-plished one of the prime callings of my office by giving France, for decades to come, the means to secure her safety and independence." The announcement by Mr Chirac, whose popularity has fallen to an all-time low for a

new president, was made in the 50th anniversary year of the bombing of Hiroshima. Referring to negotiations which are under way in Geneva over the terms of the Comprehensive Test Ban reaty, he said: "France, as she has already pledged, will play a determined and active role in world disarmament and European defence."

now is believed to be linked to his visit to the United States later this week. While John Major refused to condemn the tests, President Clinton had

expressed regret.

The tests — which all exceeded the size of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombs — soured links with France's closest neighbours, including Germany and Italy.

But France claimed that threats of boycotts — espe-cially from Scandinavia and Germany — had rarely been carried through. The Elysee Palace Indicated yesterday that Mr Chirac's visit to Japan — cancelled last autumn —

looked likely to go ahead.
During the testing campaign at Moruroa and Fangataufa atolls, French naval ves-sels clashed with Greenpeace campaigners, confiscating their equipment and arrest-ing crew members. As a result, no environmental campaigners were present for the final two tests.

Last night, Remi Parmen-tier, president of Greenpeace-France, welcomed the announcement. On June 13 last year, Mr.

Chirac had announced "seven or eight" tests to satisfy the needs of a new generation of zx missiles and to fine-time the TN-75 warhead which is to equip French M-45 missiles Yesterday's announcement

does not mean that France will never again experiment with nuclear weapons. In common with the US and Britain, it will in future rely on laboratory-based simula His decision to end testing | tion technology.

France stops Insider dealing faces 'clean-up'

Proposals intend to end secrecy as essential to attempts to win back credibility after last ment crisis surrounding the over suspect transactions in City month's ousting of its chief executive, Michael Lawrence,

Patrick Donovan City Editor

LANS to "clean-up" the City by making public all formal investigations into insider share dealing are being drawn up by the Stock Exchange, it emerged

The proposals, intended to sweep away the traditional secrecy surrounding all in-quiries into suspect dealing transactions, will go to Department of Trade and Industry ministers for approval. They follow the controversy

surrounding high profile in-sider-dealing allegations, particularly Lord Archer's involvement in dealings in Anglia Television shares just carry out irregular share before its take-over by media deals. It regards the reforms

giant MAI in 1994. The DTI has subsequently announced no further action is to be taken against the millionaire author and Tory peer. Traditionally the Stock Exchange never comments on

any investigation into suspect share deals unless there is a "degree of public interest". But under the proposals, it would release full details of any transaction it refers for DTI or Serious Fraud Office. Over the last 12 months, it submitted dossiers on 50 major share deals to investi-gating bodies, although no deals were made public. The Stock Exchange be-

lieves the threat of publicity will deter those tempted to

It has emerged that the Stock Exchange has yet to agree to a pay-off for Mr Law-rence. He is legally entitled to a "golden handshake" worth

an estimated £400,000. Mr Lawrence, aged 52, who was paid £342,000 plus a per-formance bonus of £100,000 in the last financial year, is understood to have been about to announce the insider dealing reforms when he was toppled. He was ousted after leading

institutions made it clear he no longer commanded the City's backing. The immedi-ate cause of his downfall was plans to introduce changes to the way shares are traded across the City of London.

It is understood Mr Law-rence has been asked to appear before the Treasury Select Committee, which is to ment crisis surrounding the One highly-placed source claimed the campaign to force

Mr Lawrence's resignation

Toric

grad

was masterminded by BZW, the brokerage arm of Bar-clay's Bank. The broker, a leading player in the City, leading player in the City, last year threatened to resign its membership of the London Stock Exchange unless Mr Lawrence backtracked on planned reforms. BZW feared its huge investment in broking operations would suffer if he succeeded in opening up the market to more competition. However, the broker quietly dropped its resignation threat after it became clear other players were not prepared to follow suit. It concentrated on behind-thescenes lobbying which earlier last month resulted in Mr Lawrence's resignation.

Miss Piggy still packs a punch to beat off villains in Muppet raid



Stolen: Ernie and Bert

lan Traynor in Bonn

KERMIT was his usual imperturbable self. But Waldorf and Statler were being treated for shock. And Ernie and Bert? They had vanished into the

Promoters in the Baltic city of Rostock clearly had better things in mind last year when they organised a tour of Germany by 40 of the best-loved puppet cre-ations of Jim Henson, de-signer of The Muppet Show and Sesame Street.

Unknown malefactors entered the exhibition hall

tempt. damaging her glass display case but failing to get their bands on Miss Piggy herself. Waldorf and Statler, the

grumpy senior citizens, also fought off the assault, but Ernie and Bert suc-cumbed. All that remained of them yesterday were smashed glass and empty pedestals. Nordstar, the Rostock

promotions company that launched the exhibition, put the insurance value of in the eastern German city the missing Muppets — 20- have got in with passof Erfurt in the dark of year-old originals — at keys," a policeman said.

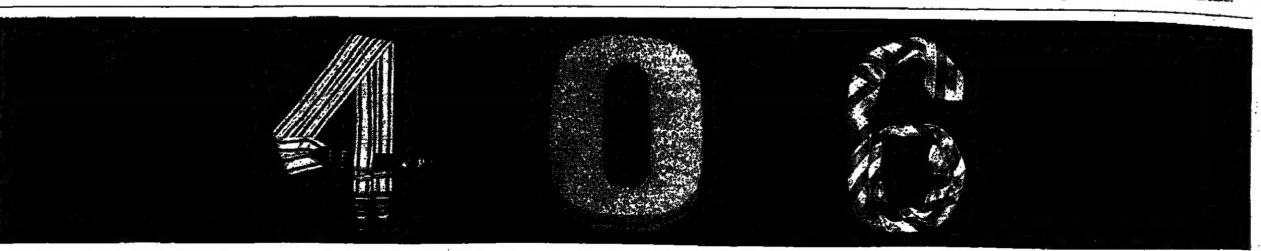
night to spirit away Miss Piggy. But the born survivor apparently put up stiff resistance, for the villains had to abandon the at-£36.000.

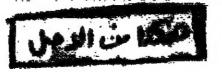
E36.000.

"It's very sad." said Jana Blaschka of Nordstar. "We need to close the exhibition until Saturday, but we hope to restart then. We're bringing in another two puppets from New York."

"It's funny Miss Piggy's still there," said an Erfurt police spokesman. "They smashed her case as well, but they never got their but they never got their hands on her, just Bert and

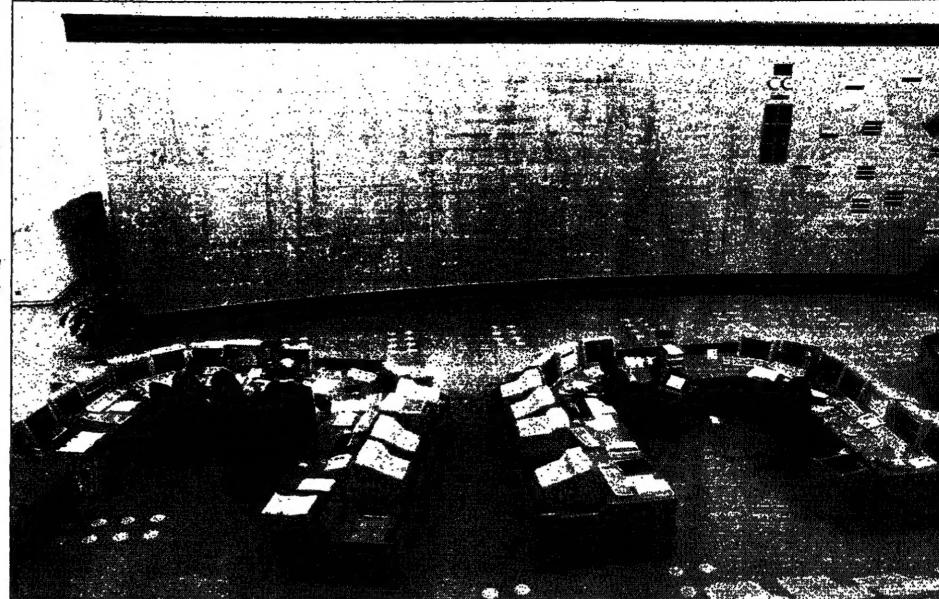
"There was no external sign of break-in. They must





suits avert Sindlesham Syndrome

John Mullin monitors a power surge at the Berkshire HQ of National Grid



Screen test . . . the cinema screen-sized map at the National Grid control centre showing power stations and supply lines throughout England and Wales

Berkshire gloom in lesham, just along from where the BMWs jostle to pick up children from Barewood College and near the golf-course, sits a rather important building: HQ for National Grid Con-trol for England and Wales. Without it, the electricity generators would be unable to operate, the regional companies would find it impossible to supply the con-sumer and teacups throughout the country

would remain empty.

It was crisis day yester-day; not that anyone would have noticed. For those hoping for control centres films, where uniformed

STLED amid the criminal mastermind, it was a disappointment. A dozen grey-suited chaps, looking for all the world like accountants, sat gazing

The demand for electricity reached an all-time high last Thursday — beating the previous best in 1987 — as people returning from work switched on their ket-tles, television sets and heating. The record peaked at 48,800 megawatts, the equivalent, as a manager helpfully put it, of almost 49 million electric fires.

As a result, John Scott, national control manager, and his team awaited yes-terday with trepidation. Large margins cost a floated privatised utility dear, and the National Grid lackeys throw switches and control likes to keep as low tered too much if capacity demand being fulfilled, sound alarms for some an excess of capacity over should be exceeded. Lights with help from imported

gas-fired stations over the weekend and temperatures dropping again, there were fears that a new record would be set, Worse: there might be too little capacity

At least, those were the hopeful worries among the journalists packing the glass-fronted viewing gal-lery. It might have looked a little like the China Syn-drome but Mr Scott and his assistant, John Tomlinson, were more sanguine. Mr Tomlinson predicted de-mand might peak at about 49,000, but the power gen-erators were doing well and there was a generous margin of safety. Not that it really mat-

demand as possible. But would be dimmed in homes electricity from Scotland with the problems of some all over the country but and France, stood at 48,361 there was no question of forced disconnection. As 5pm approached — the

start of the so-called halfhour darkness peak — Roger Kenyon, production manager, recalled the greatest surge the National Grid had experienced: when Chris Waddle blasted over the bar in England's 1990 World Cup semi-final penalty shoot-out. "We ex-pected demand to soar within 10 seconds or so; in fact, it was a full two minutes. People were shocked into inaction." Blectricity had surged by 2,800 mega-watts as England's support ers recovered

The half-hour darkness peak grew closer and the demand being fulfilled.

megawatts. Eighteen minutes later, it peaked at 48,735, with the average of 48,400 for the 30 minutes, the second highest ever.

Mr Scott seemed relieved "It was just a cat's whisker below what we predicted and we coped well." There were no alarm bells, no wailing buzzers, and no workers running about in

Then Mr Tomlinson remembered something. "For reasons we have never really been able to fathom, if you take a Monday and a Tuesday and the weather is the same on each, the peak demand will always be higher on the Tuesday. So we shall be going through all this again in the morning."

Electricity 'at the limit'

continued from page 1 Association, and a member of the Government's energy advisory panel, called on the in-dustry watchdog, Stephen Littlechild, to take greater account of consumers' security. He said that many gas-fired stations were supplied by

British Gas on terms that allowed it to axe supply if the company felt it nece preserve resources for domes tic consumers. Gas-fired stations on these

cheaper prices.
Industry sources suggested that British Gas had stopped supplies to five gas fired way Power, part-owned by

Seeboard and Southern Elec-tric and based in the Southeast where there is a shortage of generating capacity, con-firmed that it had been forced off the Grid by loss of gas supplies. All five stations were generating at peak demand

Steve Thomas, a senior fel-low at the Science Policy earch Unit at Sussex University, said that since privatisation, electricity genera-tors did not feel it was their responsibility if the lights rent out.

contracts obtained gas at British Gas insisted it had to protect supplies to the pub-lic ahead of large firms which

on the understanding sup-

Power stations on such contracts were supposed to have alternative means of supply. Pointing out that demand had reached a new record last Thursday, its Transco div-ision said one large industrial user could consume as much

gas as 100,000 domestic

The Electricity Pool, which draws up schedules for elec-tricity generation depending on commercial criteria, said last night that the question of whether gas-fired plants were at risk of being cut off was for the National Grid to consider. The Grid also came close to collarse last summer and in

Tories and Labour plan graduate tuition tax

clean-up

A siedbok, page 11

--: ---

LANS for a tax on graduates to recoup part of the cost of student maintenance and tuition are being prepared amid tight security on both Conservative and Labour front benches for publication in a few months.

The proposal breaches the principle that students are not charged fees for a first degree and runs counter to the fashion for cutting taxes rather than inventing them. It is being seen as the most plausible option for maintaining growth in student numbers without an excessive

burden on public spending or compromising the quality of university education.

Under the "income-contin-gent" loan scheme, part of the cost of higher education would be transferred to the undergraduate and funded by a more generous student loan, repayable through tax or national insurance after the student graduated and was earning enough to afford the monthly instalments.

There would be no levy on those who graduated before the plan was implemented.
On the Government side, a

green paper is due "within two or three months". It is expected to present the graduate tax as one of a range of options to contain the cost of lates unless the Government

avoid backing the scheme before the general election un-less it gains widespread ac-ceptance. They are being advised, however, that reform of university funding is the

consensus. John Smith, the former Labour leader, took the higher education portfolio away from Jeff Rooker two years ago when he voiced similar proposals. But David Blunkett, shadow education secretary, is understood to be convinced that loans repayable through the tax system are the only alternative to a catastrophic under-funding of

catastrophic under-funding of universities.

According to Labour sources, the only questions were how progressive the scheme could be made — for example, by delaying repayments until graduates reached a relatively high income and allowing a long payback period — and whether to use the national insurance use the national insurance system or an earmarked tax.
The Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals

reaching the target of sending pledges to reverse the latest 33 per cent of young people to round of higher education spending cuts. Diana War-wick, the committee's chief university.
Ministers are likely to executive, said funding per

student was being cut by a further 9.4 per cent by 1998/9. will decide on Friday whether to tell ministers that the levy area of education policy will be imposed in September which brings the Government and Labour closest to a end of this year to introduce an income-contingent loan scheme before 2000.

Under a proposal by Professor Gareth Roberts, the committee chairman and vice-chancellor of Sheffield, the \$200 emergency levy would be paid by 140,000 first-year undergraduates. Poorer stu-dents on a full maintenance grant would be exempt. The committee expects this to yield £40-£50 million. Ministers are understood to

be considering a sweetener to the universities before the vice-chancellors meet on Friday to head off the threat. Professor Roberts was last night circulating his colleagues recommending sup-port for the ultimatum for a levy. However, a Guardian survey of vice-chancellors showed that most were

yesterday circulated plans to letters, page 8; High-stake charge an emergency £300 levy on first-year undergradu-



Garry Weaser's winning black and white photograph

Prizes for Guardian photographers

raphers were honoured at last night's UK Picture Editors' Guild award cere

Garry Weaser received the prize for the best black and white photograph, and Dennis Thorpe won the Lord Mayor's Award for the best business and industry photograph. Roger Bamber, for features pho-tography, and Don McPhee,

COUR Guardian photog | in business and industry,

their work.

of the year.

received special awards for

The Guardian also won the Newspaper of the Year award for the best use of black and white photography.
Roger Allen, of the Daily

Dennis Thorpe photograph,

Woman under protection was raped by stalker

WOMAN who was raped Ain her home by a man who had been stalking her for months was under police protection at the time of the attack, it emerged

The rape has prompted calls for a change in the law on stalking. Campaigners claim the police do not have sufficient powers to step in before the stalker becomes violent, as a significant number do. The police have defended the operation and said the woman was satisfied with the

security provided.
Cambridgeshire police confirmed yesterday that a woman, aged in her 30s, was raped in her home near Huntingdon by a man who had attacked her twice before. He had been stalking her for four months. Detective Superintendent Tony Rogers, who is heading the investigation, said the woman was raped on January 17 after her attacker knocked on her door. The attack was so violent she had only been able to provide the full details

in the last few days.

The woman, who is married with children, was first approached by her attacker four months ago when she was having coffee in a hotel near her home. He followed her to



Police issued this artist's

phoned her, and wrote her threatening letters.

He had also approached her in the street in Huntingdon. frightened by his manner that she dropped her shopping. On December 17, the man struck her on the back of the

head outside her home, as she was carrying her Christmas shopping. He then fled. He is described as white, aged between 28 and 30, with brown, shoulder-length hair. He has an ear-ring in his left ear. It is thought he drives a blue Vauxhall Cavalier, uses a betting shop in Huntingdon, and likes football. He told the

woman he was called Chuck. Mr Rogers said the rape,

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AND QUOTE SS1804/3/XX

day, was "a savage attack" which had left the victim badly injured and very traumatised. He said the woman was sat-

isfied with the level of secu-rity she had been given. The police were not prepared to discuss what measures had been taken, but in such cases a stalker's target is often issued with a "panic button" connected to the nearest police station. Last year's Criminal Jus

tice Act increased the penalties for "intentional harass-ment" to six months' imprisonment and a £5,000 fine, but anti-stalking campaigners say it is inadequate. Evonne von Heussen, of the Harassment Campaign, said last night that proposals for a

change in the law on stalking. had been placed with the Home Office.

"We need legislation that will give the police power to act," she said. Too often police were only able to act

riter an attack. She added that 5,500 victims of stalking, of whom 30 per cent had been raped, had contacted the campaign. It conducted a survey of victims which found that around 80 per cent were former partners of their stalker, 15 were casual acquaintances, and 5 per cent were strangers.

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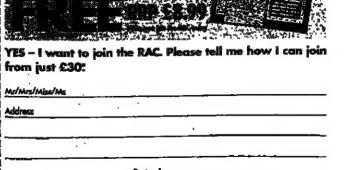
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'Decline is taking place particularly in inner city working-class neighbourhoods which have been hit by poverty and unemployment' Catholic church loses mass appeal

Madeleine Bunting on the drift away from Rome, despite celebrity converts such as the Duchess of Kent and Alan Clark

elebrity converts such as the Duchlan Clark, the Roman Catholic Church is losing its mass

appeal.

The number attending Sunday Mass fell between 1988 and 1995 by nearly 200,000 to 1,190,307, according to the latest figures published in the 1996 Catholic Directory.

Last year's figure was 36,000 down, a fall of 3 per

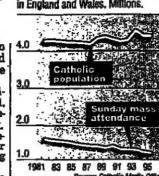
ESPITE the glam- | Of the estimated 4.5 million our of a string of Catholics, fewer than a third were in church on an average

Sunday last year.
Liverpool, once a traditional Catholic stronghold, comes bottom of the attendance league with 19 per cent. The Welsh diocese of Menevia comes top with 36 per cent, narrowly beating

We would like to see more Catholics going to Mass more often," admitted a spokesman for the Catholic Media Office. "But the pattern of worship is

All Catholics are supposed

Falling attendance England and Wales, Millions,



sign of the weakening hold of the hierarchy

The figures have serious financial implications for the church and charities which depend on Sunday collec- | halving of regular Mass atten-



missioned by Cafod, the over-

lic Media Office attributed the seas aid charity as part of its marketing research, predict a lecline to the growing assimi-

tions. Even more pessimistic | dence by 2005 to below | olic community into the private studies by the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvain com- | Kevin Thomas of the Catholic university of Louvai tant to their identity.

tablished and confident. Until recently it was ac eptable for high profile pub lic figures to be openly anti-Catholic. "In some respects, that's

a position where they are well

negative because when it was more of an immigrant community there was a need for solidarity and people went to church for that

The decline in Catholicism shows no sign of abating, claims Peter Brierley, director of Christian Research while the decline in Anglican sm is easing off.

cism in Scotland, the worst drop has been in the early 1990s and the decline is taking place particularly in inne city working-class neighbour hoods which have been badly

class and rural areas," added

Mr Brierley.
The Catholic church can take comfort in two sets of statistics which surprisingly buck the trend. Despite a drop of half a million in the numbers attending Mass since 1981, children are still being baptised at the rate of about 75,000 a year.

The figure is particularly high in the Westminster diocese which covers central London; this would seem to support the explanation that parents are eager to get their children into Catholic

The number of adult con versions have also incressed slightly from 5.731 in 1981 to 6.205 in 1994, reflecting the much publicised appeal of Rome to disenchanted Anglicans such as government

Prosaic warning for M-way fighters in poet's river valley



Tree-dwellers sit tight as the under sheriff reads the eviction notice ordering them to leave Daisy Nook. David Ward reports

testers vowed yes-terday to defend a brated by a much-loved dialect poet who died 100 years ago this month.

They gave a cool reception to Andrew Wilson. under sheriff of Greater Manchester, when he visited Daisy Nook on the Tameside-Oldham border in Greater Manchester where opponents of the £290 million M66 extension to the east of Manchester have

camped since last July. Rather than recite from the works of Ben Brierley (1825-96), whose life is commemorated in an exhibi-tion at nearby Failsworth library, Mr Wilson chose to read an eviction notice issued by the High Court in sweet sounds will soon give box Manchester. "Take notice way to the noise of contrac- Manchester.

that any person in occupa-tion of this area is hereby requested to leave within the next 48 hours and to remove his or her personal possessions . . .

Brierley is more lyrical in this prose: "In the field through which some 20 cows are browsing. How they stare to see a stranger pass! Lower down a wild colt is careering round the pasture, now stopping suddenly at the gate as if it had intended to leap over it and then changed its mind. I hear the sound of a scythe . . . there are such strange sweet echoes speaking to each other across the valley that I cannot distinguish whence a sound proceeds."

If the protests fail, those



tors creating the final 15mile link in the motorway surrounding

son noted the five tree dwellings, the lavatory with his name on its door, and the clapped-out lorry on which a scaffolding

The site is small and easily accessible, apparently offering fewer difficulties than the M65 site near

As a protester, Paul, fin-Blackburn where Mr Wil-Dalsy Nook tree for six ished his breakfast, Mr Wil-son brought in the bailiffs months, helped see up both son brought in the bailiffs last summer.

But he added: "Any operation involving tree houses and aerial walkways is potentially dangerous. We will take all the precau-tions we can to minimise that danger."

Another protester, Pete, who has slept high in a

months, helped set up both the M65 and M66 protest

camps. "This is a green space surrounded by an ureasiest places of its kind to get to in Manchester." Thanks to Brierley, Daisy

Nook became a place of refuge for workers in local

joined the fight to save it. "The motorway will devastate this area," said Barry Jones who lives in a terrac close to the planned road

"Twe got neighbours in their 80s who have lived here all their lives and are really put out. They're talking about chaining them-selves to the trees."

bypass 'fear for health and safety'

John Videi

PRIVATE security guards at the site of the Newbury rating health conditions and an increasingly dangerous atmosphere, according to two men who have resigned in the

past few days.

The former guards told the Guardian that pipes have frozen and chemical toilets have stopped working. More than 400 men are baving to defe-cate behind dormitories or in

the woods. "In terms of safety alone that place should be closed down," said one man, a retired probation officer, who asked not to be named. "The behaviour of people is appall

ing. I felt sickened "The atmosphere of the camp is becoming increasingly paranoid. There is a sense of fear as a culture of potential violence builds up.

action. You are considered a 'virgin' if you have not had a 'rumble'." — a physical con-frontation with the protesters. There was as much danger of violence among guards as against protesters. Only the

presence of TV cameras and press had restrained it. He said that when he went to the site he was told he would be a passive observer. Within three hours I was being asked to pull a woman by her ankles out of a tree."

Another guard who asked not to be named said: "Someone is going to get really hurt. I have left because I know there is big trouble there."
Their comments came in response to a Guardian investigation last week of the security operation at Newbury.

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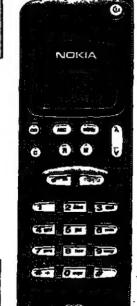
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Water profits 'creamed off'

Rebecca Smithers Political Correspondent

USTOMERS have had to pay an extra £294 million for the delivery of water over the last three years, according to a Labour Party report based on data from the industry regulator,

The shadow environment secretary, Frank Dobson, will use the information in today's Labour-initiated Commons debate, the first to focus on the entire industry since last summer's drought.

He will attack the industry for denying the public information about what services they pay for, while "creaming off" extra profits. The report, published today and based on information provided by the water industry itself, reveals that the annual cost to customers of delivering water has risen by 13 per cent since 1991/92 Labour claims that the main reason for this is that dividends from water operations - which have risen by more than one-third over the same period — have been ploughed back into their

The 10 main water service companies in England and Wales were privatised in 1989, but the figures on water delivery are only available for the last three years. Mr Dobson will criticise the

figure showing the cest in

terms of "pence per cubic

metre", which was meaning-

less to most customers. Other disclosures are:
Last year the industry nade more profit than at any time since privatisation.

while investing less than at any time since privatisaion;

Dividends from the water companies' parent groups have increased by a cumula-tive total of £458 million since privatisation;

 The water companies allow 826 million gallons of water to leak from their pipes every day. The rate of leakage i more than half a million gallons every minute. They make a profit of £3,702 every

 Since privatisation, more than 68 million customers have contacted the water companies with queries about their bills.

Last night, the Water Services Association, which represents the industry, claimed that investment in real terms was now more than double the level before privatisation. whereas prices had increased by about 40 per cent. Since 1989 "a considerable amount" had been invested in the distribution system, with leak-age levels "now significantly lower than they would other-wise have been".

The Environment Secretary, John Gummer, has recently admitted that companies should have dealt with the drought better. But dur-Mr Dobson will criticise the ing the drought he said: "I am companies for publishing a very impressed with what the water companies have done. The fault is this wonderful

Co-pilot lands holiday jet after heart attack kills captain

Vivek Chaudhary

AHOLIDAY airliner carry-ing 220 passengers was landed safely by the co-pilot after the captain died of a heart attack as the plane ap-proached Malaga airport in Spain, it was revealed

Boeing 757, which left Luton on Sunday, was at 12,000 feet when Captain Roger Atten-borough, 54, collapsed. Paramedics treated him at

The Britania Airways

the airport but he was pro-nounced dead at Sants Helena hospital, Torremolinos. Mr Attenborough's son Royd, also a pilot, said yester-day: "The only consolation is that he died flying. It was a

job he loved and it was all he ever wanted to do. "Dad passed all his six month medicals with flying colours, Fortunately, he died with no risk to the passengers thanks to the professionalism and training of his co-pilot."

Captain Attenborough and his wife also have one other son. The family live at Kemp-ston near Bedford. He joined the airline in 1969 and had been captain for 20 years. He had been flying Boeing 757s for the past five.

Roger Burnell, managing director of Britania Airways said: "We are all deeply sad-dened and shocked." The Civil Aviation Authority. which lays down health regulations for flight crews, said it could not recall a similar incident in the past 20 years.

Chinook crash theory scomed

RAF board of inquiry into the Mull of Kintyre helicopter crash, in which 29 people died. The pilot said he believed the giant helicopter's controls had Jammed, forcing it into a collision course with a hillside. He considered the board's find-

ing that the pilot had chosen the wrong rate of climb as "unlikely in the extreme". The pilot, who cannot be named on security grounds, was appearing as a witness for the family of Fl Lt Jonathan Tapper, the helicopter's

captain, at a fatal accident inquiry in Paisley, Strathchyde. He and another Chinook pilot also told the inquiry that Fl Lt Tapper, like most other Chinook pilots, had repeatedly expressed concerns that |

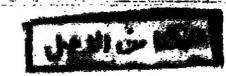
CHINOOK pilot told an inquiry yesterday he did not "for one minute" accept the findings of an replaced, and that he had not had time to familiarise him-

self with it.
The RAF board of inquiry concluded the most likely ex-planation for the crash in June 1994, which killed the four-man RAF crew and 25 passengers, including Ulster's top anti-terrorist RUC, military and MI5 officials, was a rate of climb too low to clear the Mull.

The Paisley inquiry has been told that less than a mile from the Mull, the pilot changed from fly-by-sight to instrument rules. But the pilot giving evidence thought it inconceivable the helicopter would be that close to land, out of visual contact, and below its safety altitude. The inquiry continues.



Hill House Hammond



Musician's glittering career writing jingles blighted by injuries from King's Cross fire

£650,000 for Tube blaze victim

and unemployment

The street alter

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MUSICIAN, whose hopes of making a fortune writing adertising jingles were wrecked by injuries he sus-tained in the King's Cross fire, was awarded \$650,000 agreed damages in the High Court by London Regional Transport yesterday.

The award is the largest of the 84 King's Cross compensation payments so far and un-likely to be superseded by the three cases still in the pipe-line. Thirty-one people died in the 1987 disaster which turned the tunnels beneath the station into an asphyxiat-

Ron Lipsius's claum was sertled by lawyers munutes before the case was due to be heard in the High Court. Much of the argument concerned the New-York born musician's prospects nine years ago He had hoped to become a high-earning com-

'People were maimed and killed and they threw the survivors to the sharks'

poser of advertising jingles. But the severe burns to his hands left the skin too painful and delicate to play the

He endured 18 operations under general anaesthetic ting the sides of his fingers to release dead tissue which, for medical reasons, had to be carried out without anaesthetic.

He suffered such severe pain during the months of treatment at University Col-lege hospital, London, that he was prescribed heroin for eight weeks and had to have doses of painkillers before the daily physiotherapy sessions which followed over the years. His severe post trau-matic stress led to continuing depression for which he is still being treated.

So far LRT has paid out over £4 million in damages. Kwasi Afari-Minta, a record producer, was paid £50,000 shortly after the disaster as an interim payment by LRT.

He was forced to wear a mask to remould his face. But despite the extent and nature of his injuries, he is unlikely to receive as large a settlecase is reconsidered because

the Lipsius case hinged on es-timated loss of earnings. Ticket collector Mahendra Parmar, described by his counsel. George Pulman, QC, as "one of the heroes of the fire" for staying to the last fire" for staying to the last possible moment to help people get out, was awarded £375,616 for psychological damage in November 1994. Linda Townsley, widow of the firefighter Colin Townsley, 45, who was killed when he stayed to help a badly burned woman in the ticket hall, was awarded £250,000 in April 1989. Mr Townsley died a hero's death, it was said at

award, with costs, Mr Justice had demonstrated great brav-ery and endurance in seeking to rebuild his shattered life. Had the case been argued Queen guitarist Brian May, who had heard some of his pre-fire tapes, would have tes-tified in "extremely glowing" terms to the ability of Mr Lip-sius, who held the American equivalent of a first-class degree in music and had good contacts in the advertising

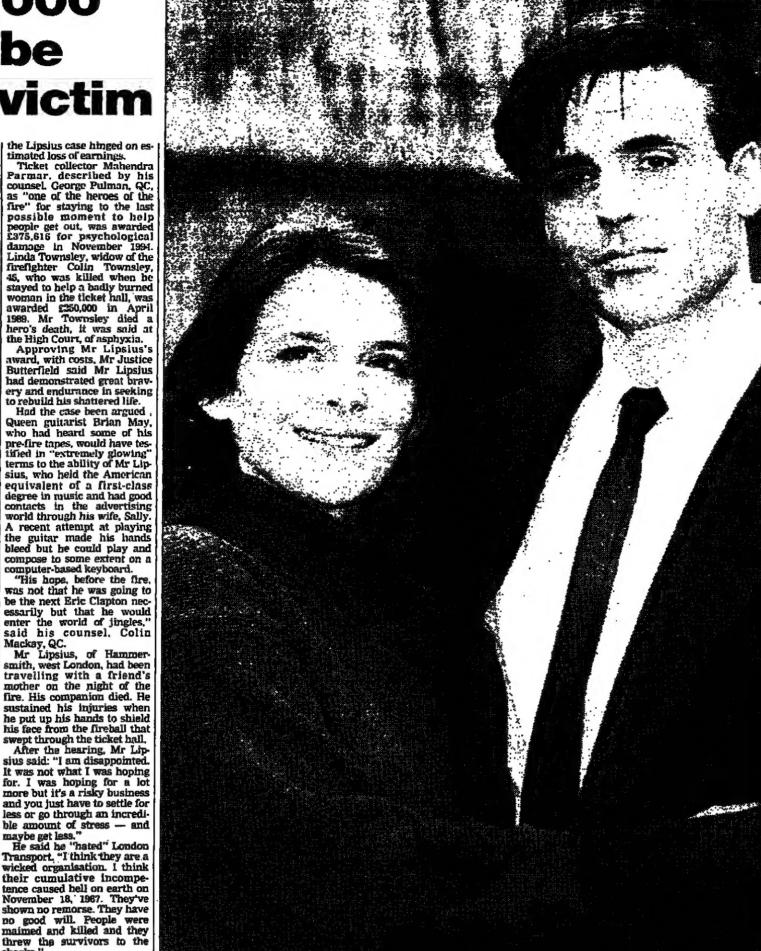
computer-based keyboard.
"His hope, before the fire, was not that he was going to be the next Eric Clapton necessarily but that he would enter the world of jingles." said his counsel. Colin Mackay, QC. Mr Lipsius, of Hammer-

smith, west London, had been travelling with a friend's mother on the night of the fire. His companion died. He sustained his injuries when he put up his hands to shield his face from the fireball that swept through the ticket hall, After the hearing, Mr Lip-

sius said: "I am disappointed. It was not what I was hoping for. I was hoping for a lot more but it's a risky business and you just have to settle for less or go through an incredimaybe get less."
He said he "hated" London

Transport. "I think they are a wicked organisation. I think their cumulative incompetence caused hell on earth on November 18, 1967. They've shown no remorse. They have no good will. People were maimed and killed and they threw the survivors to the sharks.

Mr Lipsius said the money would help him get on with his life and go towards build-ing a recording studio at his home. "My plans are still in music. That's what I do."



Ron Lipsius and wife, Sally, after receiving the largest damages awarded over the 1987 Tube fire Photograph: Richard Lewis

Homes plan to provide old age care

David Brindle and Richard Thomas

should be allowed to pledge a fixed share of their properties as insurance against long-term care fees, a left-of-centre think tank proposed yesterday.
The Institute for Public Pol-

ing implications. It would give people both the certainty of a maximum care bill and the security of knowing they would not lose their homes.

However, a report for the institute by London Economics, a leading consultancy, says the idea would only partly solve the problem. In the longer term, a new and more radical form of care in-"Restoring faith in public insurance will almost certainly involve re-casting the relationship between individ-

ual and state," says the report by a team led by Edward Richards, formerly adviser to Gordon Brown, the shadow

The report is probably the most definitive analysis to date of long-term care. Because of the growing number of elderly people, the costs—excluding the contribution of unnaid carees. year to £33.5 billion in 2031. Introducing a "pay-as-you-go" scheme in which people

now in work pay for the care of those in retirement, would require an insurance levy starting today at 1.8 per cent of earnings and rising to 5 per cent by 2031, according to the

An alternative scheme in which people in work pay for their own future care, would cost 0.8 per cent of earnings but would also involve transi-tional costs for older workers: £3.500 each for those over 40, rising to £6,000 for the over-

50s. Partial coverage would cut costs. Leaving the individual to meet accommodation costs, as opposed to nursing bills, would cut pay-as-you-go con-tributions to 1.2 per cent now and 3.5 per cent in 2001, while funded contributions fall to 0.5 per cent.

The report says such schemes need to be considered in the long run in tan-dem with what it calls "par-tial equity release insurance"

(Peri), which could be intro-duced almost immediately.

Under existing care rules, a single man aged 65 would need to pledge a 20.8 per cent stake in a property worth £60,000. A couple, both aged 55, would need to pledge 44.8 per cent. Limiting cover to three years' care could cut these stakes respectively to 13.8 per cent and 29.4 per cent. The report calls for pilot-testing of the Peri schemes and says they could be run by either the private sector or an independent organisation set

up by government. Mr Richards said other forms of equity, such as share portfolios, could be brought into the scope of a Peri. "This excluding the contribution of unpaid carers—are projected to grow from £12 billion last means-tested safety net. But it is a way of increasing flexibil ity and coverage.

John Denham, a shadow social security spokesman, said the report was a useful contribution to Labour's consideration of options for funding long-term care.

Paying for Long-term Care; IPPR, 30-32 Southampton

Child bride 'will | Student held not be put into care if she comes home'

Sally Weals

ceremony three weeks ago said yesterday that she would not be taken away from her parents and put in care if she came home.

Sarah, of Braintree, Essex. was made a ward of court last week. Sir Stephen Brown, president of the High Court Family Division, said that the court was concerned with wardship proceedings, not care proceedings. "Essex County Council has no inten-

tion at present to take Sarah into care and away from her parents...
"I would wish to say that wardship is not a procedure which represents any threat or application which might

prejudice anybody. What is desired is to enable the court to further the welfare of Sarah and to ensure her pro-

Sir Stephen, adjourning the case for further inquiries, said he hoped the emotional climate surrounding the case could now be lowered. anyone who was in the area between about 3pm and 4.30pm on Saturday.
He said Mr Holman was friendly with local children.
"We think large numbers of youngsters used to visit the

to persuade her back to Brit-ain and remains in Kahramanmaras, south-eastern Turkey, where her "hus-band", Musa Komeagac, aged 18, is in jail facing a charge of statutory rape.

the last people to see Mr Hol-man alive.

Mr Smith said Mr Holman
was being visited by relatives

Sarah's mother. Jackie,
aged 37, has flown to Turkey
to try to persuade her to comply with the court order to

in connection with murder of schoolgiri

Geoffrey Glibbs

AHIGH Court judge who Clast week ordered Sarah Cook, aged 13, to return from Turkey, where she went through an illegal marriage with the rape and murder of Caratteff Calabacteric Claim Food Cardiff schoolgirl Claire Hood a year ago.
The teenager, who has not

been named, was arrested early vesterday at his home on the St Mellons estate, close to where 15-year-old Claire lived with her mother and younger sister.
Detective Chief Inspector

Stuart Lewis described the arrest as a significant development but said inquiries were continuing.

The breakthrough came 10 days after police renewed their appeal for information on the first anniversary of Claire's murder.

Claire, a punil at Rumney High School, was reported missing by her mother on January 18 last year. Her partly-clothed body was found the following day by a cyclist, close to a footpath in Cath Cob Woods, half a mile from her home.

A team of up to 50 detectives has been working on the case and nearly 20,000 people have either given statements

or been interviewed. Samples have enabled for rensic experts to build up a genetic "ingerprint" of the killer. Around 2,000 men vol-unteered blood samples or mouth swabs in a mass DNA

testing operation.
Officers yesterday refused to say whether the suspect was among those asked to take the DNA test.

Letter spells out writer's passion

John Ezard reads between the lines of 'priceless find'



ALETTER bursting with closest, most influential say these things unless I woman friends, Cara Bray. love you very dearly as I was bray and her hustow about the great love of band Charles, a freethink-love was a freethink-love with the same she joy about the great love of her life has been discovered among papers sent to a who edited the Coventry

Midlands museum. things before seem like the beyond her upbringing by reading of a mystic inscripher widowed father. "She tion without the key", she writes of her illicit most prominent thinkers of her time", Mrs Adams said. Henry Lewes, a married But they ostracised her man whose adulterous wife when she started living

idlands museum. Herald, helped introduce
"All one's notion of the young Eliot to a world

refused to divorce him.

The letter was "a thrilling discovery" Kathleen Adams, secretary of the George Eliot Fellowship, overture from Cara. It says: her exaltation over her "It was a great experience her exaltation over her "marxiage" and discloses how the novelist, real name Mary Ann Evans, was reconciled with one of her double strength. I shouldn't find".

adopted from her two Christian names, Mary Ann. Shortly afterwards she began her first success-ful novel, Adam Bede. The manuscript was in a

box of letters and postcards relating to two well-known local families, the Brays and Fridlanders. The box was sent to the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum in Coventry, where a copy will go on display with other George Eliot memo-rabilia. The manuscript

Pensioner beaten to death while family watched TV head and face were caused by

Geoffrey Gibbs

AKINDLY pensioner regarded as a Santa Claus figure by local children has been bludgeoned to death in the front room of his Cornish home while four of his rela-tives were watching televi-

sion across the hall. Douglas Holman, aged 72, a retired nurse, was found unconscious in an armchair by his niece on Saturday afternoon when she went to tell him about a phone call. He had massive head inju-ries and died in the ambulance taking him to hospital.

Police said there were no obvious signs of a struggle or break-in at the home Mr Holman shared with his niece in

Injuries to Mr Holman's on the day he died.

which may be of use to us." Officers have spoken to three children thought to be

a sharp instrument. Items found in the house were taken

Detective Superintendent John Smith, who is leading

the inquiry, said police were particularly keen to speak to

premises over a number of years and they may be in possession of vital information

for forensic examination.



In the air, a First Class sleeper seat in First Class space, giving you 15 extra inches of legroom. On the ground, a limousine to take you to the airport and Continental another to meet your plane on arrival? All for a Business Class fare. Continental's BusinessFirst non-stop daily from London Garwick and Manchester to New York or Garwick to



Houston - and on to over 115 U.S. cities. See your travel agent or call Continental on 0800 747800.

Chernomyrdin hopes to win \$9.5bn IMF loan

Russia assures US reform goes on

David Hearst in Moscow

HE Russian prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, sought to woo President Clinton yesterday with promises that economic and political reform would continue "with certain corrections". His aim was to prise loose the \$9.5 billion (£6.1 billion) International Monetary Fund credits which

are now being reviewed.

The visit by Mr Chernomyrdin, for one of the regular meetings of the economic co-operation commission be chairs with Vice-President Al Gore, was the first high-level meeting between the two countries since the Russian elections last year and the Kremlin reshuffle this month, which purged prominent lib-erals and market reformers.

In sessions with President Clinton and Mr Gore, Mr Chernomyrdin stressed that Russia's privatisation and the Russian government was still committed to the IMF financial stabilisation programme, to co-operating with Nato in in Bosnia and to a

Russia and the US could inspire "some improper inter-pretation of events" and miseading political rhetoric, Mr Chernomyrdin warned, trying to reinforce telephone assurances about reform made by President Yeltsin to President Clinton on Friday.

But the Chernomyrdin visit to Washington has brought back cold war memories of an inscrutable Kremlin whose intentions in domestic and foreign policy baffle and divide Western analysts, despite a free press and open debates on policy in the Duma.

The US Moscow ambassa dor Tom Pickering is looking on the bright side, however, and insisting that "the glass is more than half-full, with successful democratic elec tions and economic production starting to rise again".

The Russian presidential election this summer has sent President Yeltsin on a public spending spree which has mystified deputies and

Faced with plaintive cries from millions of unpaid workers. Mr Yeltsin has in the last few days promised a £3.8 bil-lionfund to pay public workers on time, £3.2 billion for the reconstruction of Chechenia, £1.4 billion to the mining industry, £85 million in unpaid wages to miners, a

dent grants, and an increase in pensions.

The creation of a special presidential fund has caused particular bewilderment According to independent

calculations, to guarantee workers their monthly wage the fund would have to have a monthly reserve of about 30 trillion No place has been allotted

for this in the tight 1996 budget, signed by Mr Yeltsin him-self. Negotiations on the IMF loan hinge on keeping the budget deficit down to 3.85 per cent of gross domestic

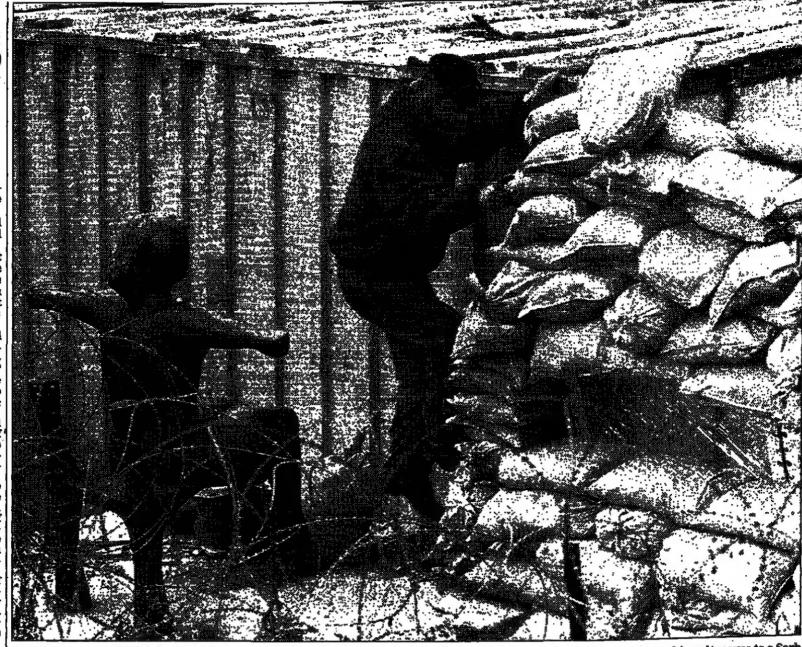
Mr Yektsin has also raised eyebrows among his army of civil servants by promising to sack every official found responsible for not paying workers' wages on time.

The Duma is not keen to

rescue the president from the chaos created by his decrees Mikhail Zadornov, head of the Duma's budget commit-tee, said Mr Yeltsin's promise of £3.2 billion to Chechenia was "economically and politically absurd".

Mr Zadornov, a member of

the liberal reform party Yabloko, said: "[Yeltsin] has very seriously shattered his authority in the eyes of ordinary



French leave . . . A French soldier shifts sandbags from an observation post in the Sarajevo suburb of Skanderia yesterday as his unit moves to a Serb suburb. Behind him is a sculpture from the 1984 Olympics, when Skanderia staged the ice skating

EU ministers firm on monetary union date

John Palmer in Brussels

UROPEAN Union foreign ministers yester-day shrugged aside British government warnings of a looming crisis of credibility in the plans for economic and monetary union in 1999.

The European Commission which contemptuously dis-missed suggestions of a secret plan to delay the launch of the single currency, expressed confidence that most EU countries would qualify for EMU by the deadline.

Suggestions last week from a "senior government source" in London that the monetary union project might have to be revised in the next few months were dismissed in Brussels as predictable trouble-making by Brit-

ish ministers "The UK view does not reflect the views of a majority of member states," the Irish foreign minister, Dick Spring. tragic if we were to even speculate about a change in the timetable so soon after the

Madrid summit. The Foreign Secretary, Mal-colm Rifkind, tried to pour further doubt on the ability of the EU to meet the 1999

"Everyday almost, senior European statesmen from France, from Germany, from Spain and from other and employers create new countries express doubt or uncertainty as to whether 1999 is a realistic target," he said.

day after day, week after week, without some serious credibility problem ... Those that are committed to that date ... are going to have to provide more than stateents, more than assertions if [1999] is to be seen as some thing that can be achieved."

on the Italian presidency's programme for the EU, for eign ministers lined up to dismiss talk of changing either

'Employment must be a priority. We can't allow 20m to

fall by the wayside' the timetable or the condi tions for monetary union set

out in the Maastricht treaty. But they did underline the urgent need for action to pro vide jobs for the EU's 20 mil-

Today the German govern-ment will present a package of measures, agreed with the trade unions and employers, to create more than 300,000 jobs. Other governments are considering whether a simi-lar package — in which unions concede more flexible working methods, governments cuts employment taxes

"France will meet the qualiflers.

"I doubt if this can go on | Maastricht criteria for the single currency," a confident French foreign minister, Hervé de Charette, said. But he insisted: 'Employment must be a priority. We cannot allow 20 million Europeans to fall by the wayside. The social and humane dimension of Europe must be clearly

> In Paris the European eco-nomic affairs commissioner, Yves Thibault de Silguy, warned that any attempt to alter the conditions for mone-tary union would be politi-cally "catastrophic", but said he was confident about the

"Barring an economic or political cataclysm, France, Germany and a majority of EU states will be ready for the transition to the euro (single currency], he said.

ment opposes any tampering with the Maastricht condi-tions for EMU, German officials admitted yesterday that the treaty was more flexible than some have believed.

"The treaty allows for an overall assessment to be made about who is ready. That is not dogmatic," an official

Although the commission would not say which countries might qualify for the single currency, its list is believed to include Germany, France. Britain, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Ireland Denmark and Finland, with Austria and Sweden possible

Serb trippers find joy and tears in Sarajevo

The Orthodox church remains intact after and missing everything, said. "The mosques and the and kisses, there was little four years of war, but old friendships have she had decided, weighed Catholic churches on our option but to sit down and four years of war, but old friendships have not been so lucky, writes Julian Borger

like a big adventure the evening before, but Mira was now refusing to go.

persuade her friend that their world had changed since the Dayton peace agreement. Soldiers had been pulled off the front line, checkpoints had been dismantled and it was now possible for two 19-year-old erb girls to cross the front window shopping and cafe-hopping in Sarajevo. For the past few days it

had been their constant topic of conversation. Betheir homes in the Serb suburb of Ilidza there were only French troops who waved you through. They talked about the

shops and cafes they

Borna was having schooldays and the friends they used to meet there. Now they could revisit them after nearly four Now they could revisit them after nearly four

years.
The morning came.
Borka had taken some care with her makeup and wore her black platform shoes. But at 10 o'clock Mira rang to say she was pulling out. Borka shrugged. "Mira's boyfriend is a Serb sol-dier," she explained. "He said we will end up in a Muslim prison."
But Borke had set her

heart on seeing her Croat aunt and cousins, who had stayed on the government side of the lines when the war started in 1992. She spun out a tale for the benenothing of the plan, and was just saying goodbye when the phone rang. It was Mira again. old town's Orthodox Fifteen minutes later church. It was still there,

heavier than her fear. Between Ilidza and cen tral Sarajevo there is a mile of scorched no man's land. Shops, houses and offices have been reduced to shattered stumps. Borka wept when she saw it. Mira

lapsed into silence.
The city opened up in front of them. The squalid jevo, surrounded by piles of rubbish, led to the burntout parliament building, the Holiday Inn, and the dense older streets of cen-

The first big surprise of the day was the absence of headscarves. Throughout the war Serb television portraved Sarajevo as a city in the grip of Islamic funda mentalism, where women were subject to a rigid dress code. Borka and Mira scarves around the mosques in the old town. The second shock was the

Mira was waiting on the with its medieval icons inremembered from their corner of Ilidza's main tact. "We thought it had

territory have all been estroyed.

After a quarter of an hour in the church, the two girls strolled round the ops in the city centre, noticeably better stocked since the lifting of the slege than their counterparts on the Serb side.

In the Imperijal Cafe on Marshal Tito Street they or dered chocolate cake and espresso coffees, and ased developments in Samira pulled out an old address book and dialled one of her former best

friends, a Muslim, "Hey it's mel Miral . . . Yest I'm in town ... In Sarajevo, of course ... What do you say? ... Oh well, I thought I'd just ring to say hello." From the way Mira's smile faded it was clear her Musoverjoyed to hear from her. "It was like she was talking

about business," she said. Borka faced a similar dis-appointment at her aunt's flat in a run-down apart-

ment block. After the ini-

Belgrade to get

EU recognition

talk about the war. The atmosphere cooled rapidly. "You can come to see us

but I don't want to see anyone of your father's genera-tion," Borka's aunt, said. "This is all the fault of the Serbs and the SDS [the Bosnian Serb nationalists). Borka smiled and said

she did not want to talk about politics. "She used to be my favourite aunt," she said later. "But she has changed. She has hardened. It's all the propaganda."

The drive home was virtually silent. Mira had been depressed since the telephone call at the Imperijal Cafe, and only relaxed once she was back on Serb territory.

Both girls plan to leave

Sarajevo once the Serb suburbs are transferred to government control on Saturly, The changed their minds. "It will take at least five years before we can live together next day they were on the phone again, planning their next Sarajevo outing.

News in brief

Jet crashes into houses

A Navy F-14 fighter jet crashed into a residential Nashville neighbourhood in Tennessee yesterday, killing at least five people and setting

three houses on fire.
The mayor of Nashville,
Phil Bredesenn, said both of the crewmen on board and at least three people on the ground died. — Reuter.

Mine victims

Two British men, Anthony Michael Jones and David Peacock, were killed in a land-mine accident in a remote part of northern Angola ear-lier this month, Foreign Office officials confirmed vesterday, Victoria Brittain

Arms cache secret The US ambassador, Swanee

Hunt, yesterday handed over to the Austrian government one of the best kept secrets of both countries: the location of 79 arms caches the Americans set up in Austria in the early 1950s. — AP.

'Suicide' clue

The body of a woman was found in Oakland County, Michigan, yesterday in a Volkswagen belonging to the right-to-die activist. Dr Jack Kevorkian - Reuter.

Mexico accord

John Major and President Ernesto Zedillo of Mexico agreed yesterday to work for greater Mexican access to European Union markets while the Mexican president said he would seek to encourage more British investment in his country. Ian Biack writes.

£9m rescue plan for French daily

save the leftwing newspaper Libération, its journalists are tomorrow expected to accept severe job cuts and agree to a controversial shift in editorial control. The 20-year-old daily, whose lively packaging of res-ponsible reporting in a tab-loid format has been imitated

all over the world, is the latest casualty in a deepening French newspaper crisis. After the closure of three national newspapers in as many months, staff at Libera-

tion believe theirs will be next unless they accept a rescue package from the Chargeurs textiles and media group, which controls 12 per cent of the company.

But many of the paper's 380 journalists, who will decide whether to hand 65 per cent control to Chargeurs in return for a FF60 million (£9.3 million) cash injection, believe their loss of control will be too great.

One said: "It is the price of survival, so we do not have much choice. But in France, we are very suspicious of industrialists taking controlling interests in newspapers."

The rescue package, which is expected to lead to 78 job losses, includes £2.2 million to compensate shareholding this will be cut from 45.2 per cent to 20 per cent. The rescue comes after a

two-year struggle against she said.

which were partly recouped after a redesign in 1994 and

100 staff cuts last year. Libération is the latest casualty in a deepening European newspaper crisis caused by falling advertising revenue and a 50 per cent increase since 1994 in the price of

newsprint. French newspapers - none of which costs less than 93p— face the added constraint of a monopolistic distribution system. Earlier this month, the dally InfoMatin closed after less than two years in exis-tence. In the last quarter of

1995, two Sunday newspapers closed. Libération's average sales of 300,000 copies a day are low by British standards. But in France, it is weekly magazines and regional newspapers which have the largest share of the market. Apart from the hugely successful sports daily, L'Equipe, France's biggest newspaper is Ouest-France, a regional

daily selling 800,000 copies in Brittany and Normandy. According to Anne Chaussebourg, deputy editor of Le Monde, which sells 400,000 copies a day, the French press is gradually falling into the hands of large groups. "We are seeing a concentration of media ownership which is rather similar to the British and German pattern. Because the phenomenon is new, we do not have legislation to safeguard the independence of the press."

Snow hinders search for mine victims

David Falrhall, Defence Corresp

FFORTS to recover the landmine in western Bosnia at the weekend were defeated yesterday by heavy snow and the hidden danger of other mines. As darkness fell army wrecked vehicle but were still trying to extract it.

There are far more mines around the vehicle than we might have imagined, both anti-tank and anti-personnel." said a spokeswoman at The three dead soldiers were named yesterday as Trooper John Kelly, aged 21, from Sunderland, Lieutenant Richard Madden, aged 25. from Hohne, Germany, and Trooper Andrew Ovington, aged 25. from Peterlee, County Durham. All three were members of the Light Dragoons, with regimental headquarters at Newcastle upon Tyne, but normally based at Hohne. They died in their Spartan

tracked combat vehicle about 12 miles east of Titov Drvar, accompanied by another vehi cle, as part of the Nato-led peace implementation force (I-FOR). The Spartan is ightly armoured. In this case the mine detonated ammunition inside the vehicle, which then burned out.

The incident has confirmed Nato commanders' fears that the worst danger they now face is unmarked minefields. made doubly dangerous by a covering of snow and the lack of accurate minefield maps. There are believed to be between 3 million and 7 million uncleared mines scattered

along former confrontation lines and in areas that may soon be revisited by tourists. Thousands of minefield army. It was his life. He never maps, of varying accuracy. said he was worried. He came have been handed over to out of there during the war the I-FOR commanders as without a scratch and has required by the Dayton ac- gone back to be killed in



Gently does it ... A Russian soldier defuses a mine in Priboi, north-east of Tuzla

suggested yesterday that they probably cover only a third of the mines, most of which are anti-personnel devices. Worldwide, mines kill

maim 500 people a week. In Geneva, diplomatic efforts are being made to strengthen the mining protocol of the United Nations inhumane weapons convention, but there is no immediate prospect of a complete ban.

Britain supports a partial ban on devices that do not self-destruct after a certain time. Meanwhile, for every mine painstakingly cleared, another 20 are laid John Kelly's father Dennis said yesterday: "He loved the

other two families, but he was doing a job which he really enjoyed doing."

brother David, a major in the Queen's Royal Hussars, said: "It's tremendously sad and our sympathies go out to the

UROPEAN Union for-

John Palmer in Brussels

eign ministers said last night they were on the point of formally recognising rump Yugoslavia — Serbia and Montenegro — despite pressure from Washington to deny such rewards to the Belgrade government. The EU overture to the Ser-

bian president, Slobodan Milosevic, has angered the United States, human rights groups and those investigating war crimes.
The German foreign minister, Klaus Kinkel, said earlier

that the issue had been put on ice because of transatlantic policy differences. He said he had received a message from the US secretary of state, Warren Christopher, restating Washington's opposition. But later the French foreign minister. Hervé de Charette, said the text of an EU recognition declaration had been agreed, and that France would go ahead unilaterally. EU recognition is seen as a reward for President Milosevic's help in securing the Day-

ton peace agreement.
Last week the president of
the International War Crimes Tribunal, Richard Goldstone, said he had not received "even the minimum of co-operation" from Belgrade. After the meeting in Brussels the Italian foreign minis-

ter, Susan Agnelli, said it was hoped that recognition would

come "really quite soon". Ministers claimed they were only waiting for confir-mation of a detailed mutual recognition agreement be-tween Belgrade and the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia. "This is now the only issue

that remains to be settled," the Foreign Secretary, Mal-colm Rifkind, said. "There is a general view now that we should be moving towards recognition of Yugoslavia."

The main obstacle appeared to be the name by which the Macedonian state is to be known. "As I speak, [that issue] and the precise date for recognition by Belgrade are not entirely satisfactorily sorted out," a European Commission official said last

night. The US fears that premature recognition might make it more difficult to secure a final mutual recognition agreement between Yugosla-via and Croatia, and could lead to repression in Kosovo. Angry women refugees from Srebrenica, fearing for the fate of 8,000 men missing after the fall of the Muslim enclave, rampaged through Red Cross offices in Tuzia yesterday, smashing windows and equipment. At nightfall, some were still inside.



The trouble with John Major is that he doesn't believe in anything or look more than 48 hours ahead. I quite like him but I don't admire him. All politicians of the nineties are interested in is being in the job. That's what Margaret and Tony Blair have in common. Belief.

Lord Young G2 page 4

The state of the s

job-seekers

Fighting Liberia's other War massacre

lings] died at the hands of child soldiers who never knew what they were doing because they were under the influence of drugs," said Col Kromah, aged 30, deputy director of the national police you can get cocaine. Our and the head of Internal in and the head of Interpol in

e the war broke out in er 1989. Liberia was of hard-core drug addicts in

OLONEL Abraham used as a transit point for Kromah is fighting drugs passed from south-east ing the war and that he had treated at least 75 youngsters six-year civil consistency and the country has become a drug consumer, adding and the respect to property to

"Today it's all over the place," said Edward Grant, a psychiatrist at the John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital in Monrovia, who counsels

man the borders. Our drugs market is highly saturated."

been on the rise.

"I took drugs in order that I would be brave on the front," a former rebel. Bill Gabriel, aged 27, said. "I took tablets that I didn't even know what it was. I took cocaine and her-

detoxification hospital and now lives in a mission run by

between five and 15 living in the ghettos smoked marijuana or took harder drugs, including LSD, which used to

was working with Nigeria's national drug law enforcement agency in trying to stem the flow of narcotics through Monrovia. But he feared a rise in the influx of drugs because direct flights from Nigeria had recursed on ADC air. ria had resumed on ADC air-lines, dubbed here African

An informal survey by the private organisation Liberians United Against Drug and Substance Abuse found nearly half the children aged between five and 15 living in between five and 15 living in the shettes smoked mari-

The only other vehicle With international attention focused on Nigeria, some drug traffickers have found it available belongs to Col Kromah, whose team of 37 sorely easier to use Monrovia and neighbouring Freetown, in Silacks resources. Col Kromah earns only £8 a month, and he erra Leone, as points of ex-port. They can easily buy a Liberian passport, and pass through United States cusand his fellow officers have not been paid since fore majority rule. Fighting the drug trade has

toms with less scrutiny. The drug traffickers also employ never been a priority for Liberia's governments. An inas couriers Liberians made international conventions on drug trafficking last year. Mr nesburg. The attack took Jallah said he hoped to place shortly before 3am. Police said they had been

T LEAST eight people were killed in South Africa yester-day in a savage attack on a group of un ployed workers which brought back chilling memories of the random killing be-

Gunmen with rifles and pistols opened fire on more than 2,000 people queuing over-night for 200 jobs at a die-cast-ing factory at Alberton, in the industrial belt east of Johan-

given conflicting accounts by survivors of what had happened. By one account about seven men pushed their way to the front of the queue and, when profests ensued, pro-duced their guns and sprayed the crowd with bullets.

A survivor, Buthelezi Mtat shelwa, wounded in the chest, told reporters that he had no idea why he had been shot. "I was looking for a job, but I am not going to go back to that place again." he said from his hospital bed.

The factory, N. P. Die Casting, is owned by the giant Anglo American Corporation. The two main trade unions at the plant are linked to rival political groups — the ruling African National Congress and the Inkatha Freedom Party. But the management said there was no evidence of inter-union tension which

might explain the killings. The national police com-missioner, George Fivaz, and the minister of safety and security, Sydney Mufamadi, rushed to the scene and announced a reward of R250,000 (£47,000) for information leading to the killers.

The ANC said the attack could have been aimed at undermining peace efforts in KwaZulu-Natal province, at the other end of the country, where a power struggle con-tinues between the ANC and Inkatha. It said the massacre bore "the hallmarks of a 'third force' operating in the midst of our people".
The Inkatha Youth Brigade

came familiar in this region of South Africa in the early 1990s — usually on trains or after the non-racial elections in 1994. This encouraged speculation that they had been part of a conspiracy involving elements of the security forces, aimed at destabilising the country and stalling progress towards majority rule.

The government is concerned however, that such a

force may still be operating, particularly in KwaZulu-

creased by evidence of police involvement in a particularly shobane, near Port Shepstone, on Christmas Day in which 19 people were hacked

Mr Fivaz said yesterday

'It bore the hallmarks of a third force operating in our midst'

at least 10 policemen to the Shobashobane incident and their arrest was imminent. More than 1,000 Zulus were involved in the attack.

The police seem to have had intelligence that it was being planned, but did nothing to prevent it.

 The general strike in Swa-ziland which threatened the rule of the country's absolute monarch, King Mswati III. eased yesterday as thousands of people returned to work in the towns. But the protest workers on sugar estates and

timber plantations. The return to work apvated in part by the fact that many employees were anxious to get their end-of-month salaries this week — raising the possibility that the strike cal crisis is not resolved.

Union leaders had been insisting that the action would continue until the king lifted appealed to the public to leave | the 1973 state of emergency the matter to the police and and the ban on political

Hunt for clues to explorer's death

hopes to solve 71 year-old Fawcett

puzzie, Jan Rocha in Sao Paulo writes

A being planned to discover what happened to Colonel Percy Fawcett, the British explorer who disappeared in the Brazilian jungle 71 years ago while allegedly seeking a

lost city. The Brazilian-born organisers, James Lynch and René Delmotte, intend to use Land Rovers and boats to retrace the explorer's route into the Xingu region of central Brazil. They plan to set out in June from the Mato Grosso town of Cuiaba and travel more than 1,500 miles, following the co-ordinates given by Fawcett in his last message

Mr Delmotte, aged 42, a car sales executive in Sao Paulo and part-time ex-plorer, said they hoped to raise the £130,000 needed for the expedition from

Since Fawcett, his son Jack and a friend, Raleigh Rimmell, disappeared in 1925, mystery has sur-rounded his fate. In the 1930s missionaries and explorers reported sightings of Fawcett living among the Amerindians, but these were never confirmed.

In 1937 an American missionary wrote to Fawcett's wife to say that she had seen a fair-haired Amerindian child in the region, the fruit of Jack's ligison with an Amerindian woman. But another Fawcett son, Brian, who went on an expedition in search of his father in 1952, said the fairhaired Amerindian was an

albino. Orlando Villas Boas, one of the three legendary brothers who led expedi-tions to contact indigenous groups in central Brazil in the 1950s, before the roads arrived, and who set up the Xingu National Park where many of them now live, has always maintained a keen

Brazilian expedition | village. They were examined years later in London, but were declared not to be Fawcett's. There are now moves afoot to subject the bones, which are currently stored at the Sao Paulo An-thropological Museum, to

In the late 1980s, when the bones were being examined in England, Mr Villas Boas said: "The Calapados Indians told me their tribe clubbed the white man to death because he had

reneged on a promise to give them presents. "Apparently, after discovering that these Indians were peaceful, he decided to save the gifts for pacifying more aggressive tribes later on," Mr Villas Boas

said.
'Fawcett was a cultured man, but by their accounts he lacked the sensitivity to deal with Indians and was



pushing them away and scolding them when they played with his baggage."
Mr Villas Boas believes that Fawcett was really seeking minerals, not a los city. He says he was told by Kalapalo Amerindians exactly how Fawcett had met his death. They said the explorer was killed with a blow to the neck while he stood on a river bank, and then thrown into a lake, after he antagonised the Amerindians in the village where he was staying. Jack Fawcett and Rim-

mell were killed when they went to his rescue, according to this account.
The expedition's organisers will invite Mr Villas

Boas, now in his 70s, to go with them. They also want

flict. His enemy is the drugs other problem to poverty and civil strife.

The United Nations drug control programme is aware to the problem to poverty and civil strife. the death of his 14-year-old brother, who was forced to join a rebel army.

control programme is aware of the menace. It opened an office in Liberia last week. join a rebel army.
"The rest (three other sib-

He said his brother was killed in battle while on drugs provided by his commanders. Before the war broke out in

national boundaries are po-rous now; there are no

Women resort to prostitu-tion and young men turn to crime to support their £2 a-day habit of smoking cocaine — and heroin-laced cigarettes known as dugers. Armed rob-bery and HTV infection have

oin too. Grass was something like food to me." Mr Gabriel ended up in a

be sold in pharmacies in the Col Kromah said his office

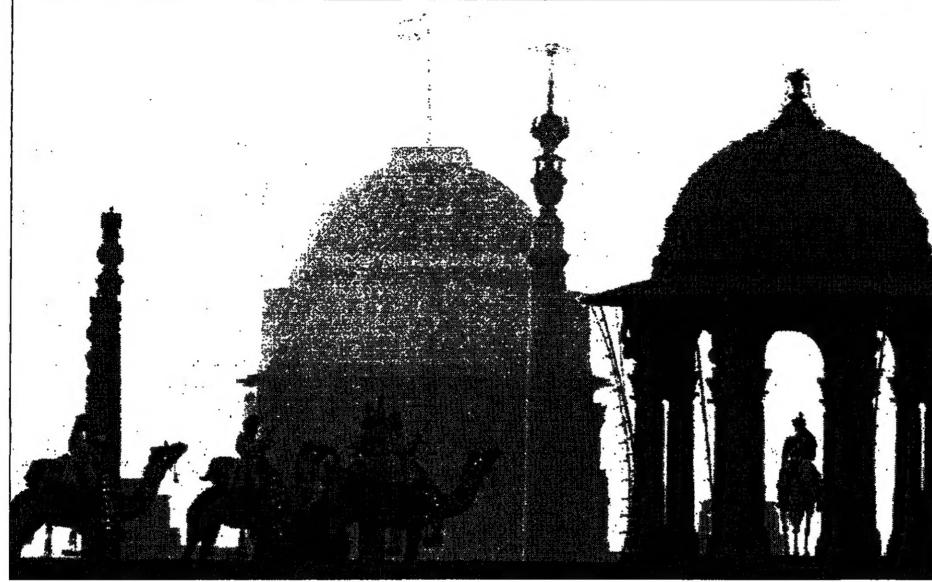
trans-shipment point for hard drugs from south-east Asia. Col Kromah said his office

Drugs Carrier. Nigeria is Africa's largest

desperate by the war.

"We are quite aware of these problems, but just how much we are able to do about

drug traffickers.
Unless more is done, he said, "for upcoming generations, the future is bleak".



Homeward bound . . . The Ganga Risala Camel Corps performs the annual beating the retreat ceremony in front of the Presidential Palace, New Delhi, yesterday

Campaign opens with **Keating in the rough**

It is too early to write off trailing Labour, writes Christopher Zinn in Sydney

minister, Paul Keating, leading the Australian Labour Party to its sixth term in office looked poor as the election campaign began yesterday with the latest polls taking the conservative oppo-

sition's lead to 14 points.
The Liberal-National Party coalition needs only a 0.5 per cent swing on March 2 to take seven seats from Labour and | tion. He promised to cut the unseat the party after 13 years in power. The Labour Party holds 79 seats in the federal parlia-ment, the coalition 66 and in-

dependents two. Under the preferential electoral system, the first party to win 75 seats forms a government.

Mr Keating, aged 52, dismisses opinion poil results, saying a good leader does not

saying a good leader toes not have to be popular. But he has slipped further behind the op-position leader, John How-ard, during the past year. "There's still a long way to go," a cautious Mr Howard go," a cautious Mr Howard told supporters in Sydney yes-terday. "Don't be mesmerised or seduced by volatile opinion polls on day one."

Christopher Zinn in Sydney

AUSTRALIA'S defence force is under fire from

army veterans for allowing

homosexual personnel to enter a float in Sydney's gay and lesbian mardi gras, which attracts entrants-from around the world.

Major-General "Digger" James, president of the Returned Servicemen's

League (RSL) — the Austra-lian equivalent of the Brit-ish Legion — called the de-

cision "astounding and

Yesterday's polls show that Labour's support has fallen to 36 per cent, compared to the coalition's 50 per cent. Betting

shops are giving heavy odds against a Labour win. Mr Keating began his cam-paign in Melbourne by announcing a £100 million fouryear programme to combat high youth unemployment, homelessness and drug addiunemployment rate, as high as 30 per cent in some areas. to 5 per cent by the year 2000. Mr Howard promised to help small businesses im-

prove job prospects for the Last week the prime minis-ter announced a package of environmental measures. The environment, economic management, unemployment, labour relations and health care are emerging as the key

Labour's first television commercials have tried to paint Mr Howard as a weak far-right monarchist bereft of new policies who wants to turn the clock back. Mr Howturn the clock back. Mr How-ard, aged 56, was dropped as Labour is doomed."

Armed forces' gay float under fire from old soldiers

preferences.

Homosexuals have been

The parade, on March 2, will feature a defence force

float for the first time. It

will be manned by the G-

Force, a support group for gays and lesbians in the armed services.

G-Force members will not

be allowed to wear uni-

forms or brandish military

armed forces since 1992.

been given in line with offi-cial policy not to discrimi-nate against personnel be-cause of their sexual to play dance music, includ-ing one melody called Shoot Me With Your Love. While the organisers

opposition leader after his 1987 poll defeat, but made a comeback last year. The Democrats, the third

party, are campaigning under the slogan "Keep the bastards Led by Cheryl Kernot, they face a bitter battle with the Greens to retain the balance of power in the senate, where half the 80 seats are up for re-

Ms Kernot said: "Whether John Howard wins govern-ment, whether Paul Keating wins government, Australians will want us there to do what we've always done: keeping the hastards honest and knocking off the pointy bits."

Despite the polls, few are willing to write off the Labour Party, whose electoral strate rary, whose electoral strate-gies were studied last year by Tony Blair. Three years ago Mr Keating faced a similarly "unwinnable" election, and

"Labour has recovered from similar depths in the polls at each of the past three analyst, Anthony Green, said. "This time, however, it is leaving the poll recovery very late. Either the electorate is

have welcomed the sol-

diers, sailors and air force

entrants, the powerful RSL is far from amused. Gen

James said the float gave

the wrong message.

He said that, given the serious nature of recent de-

mail-in election

ens warned Ankara it would

use all its military might to

the Aegean Sea, writes Helena Smith in Athens.

The Greek prime minister.

Costas Simitis, speaking

shortly before outlining his new government's policies in parliament, said Greece was determined to hold on to

MERICA'S first state-wide federal postal elec-tion closes in Oregon today when voters post their last ballots in a senate contest to replace the disgraced Republican senator Bob Packwood, writes Christo-pher Reed in Los Angeles. As well as changing cam-paign styles, the postal vote is regarded as a guide to Democratic hopes in No-vember's national elec-

tions. Although the new ballot process makes it difballot process makes it dif-ficult to gauge public opin-ion, the Democrat candi-date, the liberal congress-man Ron Wyden, does not have any measurable lead. His Republican opponent Gordon Smith, a multi-mil-lionaire businessman, has event 22 million of his own spent \$2 million of his own money in a blitz of aggres-

As a referendum on Speaker Newt Gingrich's rightwing "revolution", the Democrats need a deci-sive victory.

Oregonians regard their

fence cuts, personnel should be working to Pacific north-west state as an environmental paradise. But unemployment is high restore morale and funding levels and not taking part in the logging industry, wages are low, and Demoin "hoop-la or carnivals".
"I see it really as defence crat loyalists may not rally quite wrong".

But defence force spokesman said approval had they are reportedly going group." advocates cuts in health

US eyes on first | Fear for hostages grows

THE Indonesian military is becoming increasingly concerned because the Free Papus Movement may Papua Movement (OPM) rebels holding 13 hostages, in-cluding four Britons, in Irian Jaya — the Indonesian half of New Guinea — have not made radio contact for five days, writes John Aglionby in

Greece threatens Turkey over disputed isle

Athens sent several gun-

boats to the border area after

war at the weekend, remov-

ing each other's national sym-bol from the islet.

taker prime minister, Tansu Ciller, ordered the lodging of

ens after Greece - which says

Yesterday, Turkey's care-

territorial rights.

FENSION between the hesitation," Mr Simitis said. "We will never accept the Greece and Turkey rose questioning of our national

'protect" a disputed island in the two sides stepped up a flag

mia, an uninhabited rock it acquired the island from

hugging the Turkish staly after the second world coastline.

"We have the means, and Washington, Moscow and its

"We have the means, and Washington, Moscow and we will use them without any European Union partners.

There has been no commu-nication with the rebel camp since Christian missionary mediators visited the OPM leader, Kelly Kwalik, last Thursday at his base near the mountainous village of Ma-

RESIDENT Saddam Hus-

Quoted by the official Iraqi News Agency, President Sad-dam, aged 59, said that "distorted" reports that he was suffering from cancer were "an attempt to stab the Iraqi people and deter them from escalating their march" and undermine their determina-

"Had we not been in winter would have crossed the Tigris river back and forth, swimming as I have done sev- | plies. — Reuter.

trade sanctions.

now be trying to spirit their captives across the border into Papua New Guines, which will involve an arduous trek through 175 miles of unchartered mountainous jungle.
The hostages, who were

GREECE

20 miles

Imia Islet 77 TURKEY

selzed on January 8 while carrying out scientific research in the Baliem Valley, began their third week of captivity yesterday. Thirteen hostages have al-

ready been freed.

Saddam denies health scare

what the enemies and biased people should put into consideration for the future. This insein said yesterday that he was in good health and feeling so strong that he could swim across the Tigris river furiates them and makes the

people, the nations and friends happy."

In New York, meanwhile, the UN spokeswoman Syl-vania Foa said that talks with tion to defeat United Nations

eral times," he said. "This is

Iraq on an oil-for-food scheme would begin on February 6. Her announcement fol-lowed Irag's agreement on January 19 to begin negotia-tions on a plan to permit it to sell \$2 billion worth of oil over six months to buy badly-

other humanitarian sup-

interest in the fate of Col needed food, medicine and In 1951 he found a fu-

neral urn containing buman bones in a Xingu ics and journalists.

er look more than 48 hours Hen but I don't admire him ne mineties are interested I. That's what Margaret and common. Belief.

grade to get recognition

in Sarajevo

John Major is that he does

The Guardian

Tuesday January 30 1996 Edition Number 46,462 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER Fax No. 0171-837 4530 E-mail: letters@guardian.co.uk

Wrong arm of the law

Education, not legislation, is the way to cut crime

MICHAEL Howard is angry with six years at the current rate. The inal justice policies. And so is the delivered not by the Prime Minister Prime Minister. But why? The person but by the Leader of the Opposition. tive law and order policies is not Tony Blair - nor Jack Straw - but Michael Howard himself. It was Michael Howard, not Labour, who reversed the bi-partisan policies painstakingly put partisan policies painstakingly put celebrating the tenth anniversary of together by a succession of Conservative Home Secretaries. Beneath the Archbishop of Canterbury's Special tive Home Secretaries. Beneath the party rhetoric, the two main parties had reached a hidden consensus which involved more emphasis on crime prevention, support for victims, extra probation officers, more supervision and non-custodial programmes as well as prison. It was one of Mr Howard's Conservative predecessors, the hard-line David Waddington, who reluctantly concluded that prison was "an expensive way of making bad people worse". It was Michael Howard who tore up the policies set out in the Waddington/Hurd white paper.

works". Moreover, he fatuously believes the key to crime control is legislation. Hence his anger yesterday at Labour's amendment to various bills and his eagerness to produce a string of his own Acts. If he would only listen to Lord Justice Rose, who spoke last year to a Home Office sponsored conference, wryly noting that in the 60 years up to but since 1986 there have been six more - one every 18 months. Crime is not controlled by legislation as the statisfallen by five per cent for two succes-

Labour for opposing Conservative crim- serious speech on crime yesterday was who has done more to tear up Conserva- The roots of crime, as the Government's own researchers noted earlier this month, are deep and directly connected to the economic and social conditions of the country. In his speech Commission on Urban Priority Areas, Tony Blair was right to repeat its earlier warnings and set out how the social and economic inequalities of a decade ago have widened. Crime is not solved by criminal justice Acts but, as Faith in the City argued, by an acrossthe-board push on unemployment, housing, education, community development and crime. All are important but Mr Blair was right to spend most time on education, the crucial ladder for people wanting to escape from inner city deprivation. His readiness to Breaking with his five predecessors, explore new incentive schemes to get Michael Howard decided "prison the best graduates to teach in the worst explore new incentive schemes to get inner city schools should be encouraged. Idealism is not dead, as the Americans have demonstrated through

a variety of teaching schemes. Like Faith in the City, the Blair sermon is likely to fall on deaf Tory ears. Ministers seem to have only one crime objective: labelling Labour as the villain's friend. But it won't wash 1985 there were six criminal justice acts | with electorate. The polls still show the public have much more confidence in Labour's crime control policies than the Government's. More seriously, Galtics demonstrate. Mr Howard is right to | lup has shown the public is genuinely say the official crime statistics have alarmed that Conservative social policies will perpetuate "high levels of sive years; what he fails to note is the | lawlessness". Ignoring the Church and record rises of 13, 18 and 11 per cent in the Opposition may be easy, but do the three preceding years. Just to elimi- ministers really want to ignore the nate these increases — an extra 1.7 evidence of the polls? Self survival million crimes — would take another should dictate a different approach.



Nato governments must give greater backing to the Tribunal

rump Federation of Serbia and Montenegro would be a significant step towards the restoration of international legitimacy to President Milosevic. But even though EU Foreign Ministers yesterday decided to postpone recognition, tors are receiving little help in their their timing now depends on normalisation between Belgrade and Macedonia, and will go ahead notwithstanding | before the full facts can be established. US reservations. This is a false tactic. Recognition would deprive Nato countries of a valuable lever to secure compliance by Belgrade with the Dayton agreement's provisions for the pursuit of war criminals. It would also make it virtually impossible to indict Mr Milosevic himself for war crimes.

Judge Goldstone, the Chief Prosecutor for the International Tribunal on War Crimes in Yugoslavia, is complaining that Belgrade is witholding all cooperation in the search for war criminals. The Judge has been similarly frustrated in Zagreb where President Tudjman is equally reluctant to arrest war US pressure to act. But by no means all "no one is exempt" from investigation, stability in the Balkans.

RIGHTLY, the United States is trying to deter the European Union countries atrocities without physical participatrom normalising relations with Belicon. Yet the Nato allies also need grade. Diplomatic recognition of the Milosevic and Tudjman in the implementation of the Dayton agreement, where war crimes are only one aspect

of a much broader whole. The Nato military are also frustrating Judge Goldstone's task. His investigaattempts to prevent the grizzly evidence of mass graves from being destroyed The military commanders are even more opposed to involvement in the arrest of suspects. They assert that I-FOR's identification with the War Crimes Tribunal would be courting reprisals and unnecessary danger for their soldiers. The commanders must be overruled. The War Crimes process is too important to be thwarted. Nato governments must give more decisive backing to Judge Goldstone. It is as wrong now as it was in 1945 to contend that scarce resources are better devoted to rebuilding shattered countries than to raking over the past. After 1945, war crimes trials and the exposure of indicriminals and is successfully ignoring vidual mass murderers were vital to the healing process in Europe. The same the blame for Judge Goldstone's lack of applies to Bosnia, and to Croatia, today. progress lies with the Serbian or Croa- The International Tribunal is as much tion leaderships. Nato governments | part of future peace in former Yugoslathemselves have failed to give the War | via as Nato's I-FOR and the civilian Crimes Tribunal the priority it de task force under Carl Bildt. The Interserves. Admittedly they face a dilemma. | national Tribunal deserves the support President Clinton has proclaimed that of all who profess to seek peace and

Responding in the vernacular

Stray thoughts of a Yorkshire Conservative candidate

ousted by a grassroots revolt because asked if he thought Mr Major was likely he was not a local man. "Both intellec- to be replaced after the next election. have long considered myself a Yorkshireman, you daft hap'porth" he told a

Mr Lamont, who arrived in the constituency wearing a cap and leading a small whippet, declared himself utterly loyal to the Prime Minister. Asked if he stood by the complaint he had made shortly after his dismissal as Chancellor that Mr Major was "in office but not in power", he told journalists: "Je ne regrette nowt. There are them as says our John ought to be waited on by Tory grandees after the next local elections. and instructed to resign in the interests of the party. But that might open the way for some right mithering tussock "Happen" he said.

FORMER Chancellor Norman Lamont, | like Heseltine, sithee." The former newly adopted as prospective Conserva- | Chancellor, who during the interview tive candidate for Harrogate, yesterday | unbuttoned his jacket to reveal a silk tdismissed allegations that he might be shirt inscribed Boycott For Pope, was tually and, if I may say so, spiritually, I | He said he was "too topfull o'throng" to waste his time on such speculation. Probed about his own leadership ambitions, Mr Lamont replied: "I've never thowt owt o' that, you girt bugger." But suppose - reporters persisted - John Major were to resign after the next election, and the party's right wingers proved hopelessly torn between Michael Portillo and John Redwood: could the former Chancellor yet emerge, faute de mieux as it were, as a dark horse candidate? Downing his pint of Tetley's in a single gulp, Mr Lamont buttoned his jacket, placed his cap on his head, fastened the lead on his whippet, and smiled an inscrutable smile.



Letters to the Editor

That Blair agenda (cont.) Northern Ireland: why elections could spell a Major disaster

OHN GRAY calls for "bold policies" from Labour to "forge a new and John Gray bemoan the Labour to "forge a new political settlement" (Putting Britain together again, January 29). Yet it seems that the extent of his radical vision is the introduction of PR and tinkering with NHS-funding machinery — and this with-out Tony Blair's excuse of being burdened by the "art of the possible" culture of politi-cal reality.

I must have been out of the country when "the class cul-ture of deference was destroyed". Margaret Thatcher of bullying meritocracy, a tilting at the windmills of privilege by Essex Man, but she left the fundamental institutions of class to continue

pranch constitutional reform. P45s for the disreputable rogues inhabiting the royal palaces and the ermine-clad zombles of "the Upper House", a rebalancing of power in favour of the lovel power in favour of the local and regional level, a Freedom of Information Act, the recovery of the national assets stolen under the name of privatisation. Oh yes, and or training Such low expecta-Chris Wilkins. 13 West Street. Leicester LE1 6XL

Austere regimes

OUR family wishes to ex-press our satisfaction

with the verdict of the inques

on what led to Shiji Lapite's

death in the early hours of December 17 1994 (Asylum seeker unlawfully killed by

police', January 26), and our profound gratitude for the moral and financial help we

have received. Shiji's death is

an example of the difficulties which have been facing Nige-

rians over the past 12 years.

Thousands from the produc

tive sector have been arbi-

trarily imprisoned and mur-dered by the Nigerian

military junta, driven insane

and forced into seeking

asylum in various countries.

Nigeria earns over \$2 mil-lion a day in oil exports, yet the economy is in shambles

and the infrastructure is in a

state of decay. Oil revenue is

state of the decay. On revenue is plundered by the military rul-ers, who revel in their ill-got-ten gains while turning deaf ears to the plight of the masses. We will, however, continue to fight the good light with the home that a solu-

fight with the hope that a solu-tion will be found to the prob-

ellest thing is to take away a

man's self-respect; this, to me,

is what the Home Secretary's

I remember a young man I met in Broadmoor. He was

taking a correspondence

course in composition, or-

chestration and conducting.

He was later released and ob-

tained a post as an orchestra

conductor. Where would he

have been under the "auster-

There is a phrase, meant as

a derisive insult. against such

people as Dr Johnson whose

alm is to improve conditions: "do-gooder". What a sad

ity" policy?

commentary.

Larry Adler. London NW3.

"austerity" policy does.

lems which prevail there. Soji Lapite.

London SE5.

loss of a collective value by which our lives can be gov-erned. Both affirm the need to modern age. Both are also self-confessed advocates of the Tina (There Is No Alternative) school of politics — as first popularised by Margaret Thatcher. Their version runs like this: "There is no alternative to the market, but the market does not guarantee stable social outcomes, therefore we need community." This ethos seems to me to

embody the worst of all poss-ible worlds. On the one hand the irrational, disorganisa-tion of the market is taken as a given. On the other, its abiltheir malign business.

The Labour Party could duce stable societies is begin the process of demofatalism, without Margaret's

> tions about community. The "big idea" retreats from the fundamentals to tertiary sec-Bruno Waterfield. 135 Isledon Road, London N7 7JP.

> > COULD COME

THROUGH

OUT MANY

geography of Newbury (Let-

ters, January 19). Some 50,000 vehicles do not trundle

through the middle of our lovely old market town every

day. Thousands of jugger-

nauts do not thunder past
Marks & Spencer's or McDonalds: they pass by on the Newbury bypass. Newbury has
had a bypass for the last 30

years. It is true that the New-bury Bypass Mark One has

YOUR leader (January 29) is right to press the Labour leader to stay on. course, but there's a worrying side to your point about the to bring forth the "much tighter formulations". Most of it appeared to be generated by shadow cabinet creating the opportunity for the other side. Is this the model for the future? Will the Trojan horse(s) have to be wheeled forward by the Trojans? Terry Hamilton.

23 Cavendish Nottingham NG7 1ED.

ANYONE who has ob-served the increasingly ridiculous and ideologically bereft transformation of Nev Labour can only conclude that it stands for an almost perfect fusion of Thatcherism and social democracy: a free-market economy fettered only by a layer of quangos stuffed

with Labour appointees.

I find laughable the notion that Tony Blair's ill-thoughtout gimmick, the "stake-holder society", should be seen as anything other than a typical piece of social-demo-cratic centralising and unspe-11B Preston Road, Leyland,

Lancashire PR5 2NT.

THE dismay with which ment, republicans and the Irish should government view John such t Major's call for elections in Northern Ireland should be shared whatever one's political sympathies (Ulster scramble moves to US, January 27). Major must hope to view that democracy and elec-tions must be synonymous. This is wrong, and especially so in the tricky case of political transitions.

Elections mirror existing divisions and views. But the reason people support peace t possible for them to change their minds. An election can only hamper this attempt to create new fluidities. The giances but to make new ones thinkable. Negotiations, not elections, are the path which will eventually make consent in a divided society a mean-

ingful question. Major might retort that he is calling for elections only for gotiating forum, and that parties should have to legitimate themselves internally before going to the table. Yet elections would inevitably set parties at odds among themand posturing of "normal" de-mocracy have no place in the process of political transition where co-operation between narties is at a premium. (Dr) Melissa Lane.

King's College, Cambridge CB2 1ST. T IS not often that I agree with John Major, but after 17 months of pettiness and staliing over the Northern Ireland peace process, I feel that all the main participants should be required to review their to consult? David Rowlands, party talks. Major's govern-Heworth, York Y03.

view of the gradual erosion of its mandate since the last electhe added advantage of quashtween the Conservatives and the Unionists, in order to maintain the Conservative majority in Parliament. (Dr) A P Connor.

Barn Street, Oxenhop West Yorks BD22 9JB.

OME 20 years ago, as di-rector of the Northern Ire-land Community Relations Commission, I went with a group of prominent members of the community to meet the self-appointed Workers' Counan attempt by the new power-

Ulster into a united Ireland. So alarmed were we by the potential damage to the emer-gent executive that we tried to see the newly appointed Secre-tary of State at Stormont, Merlyn Rees. We were met by a senior official of the Northern Ireland Office who informed us that Merlyn Rees would have no truck with "thugs and bully boys". We sent a delega-tion to Westminster: the chief nan on Northern Ireland refused even to lis-ten to what we had to say. The rest is history. The strike became a province-wide shutdown and the executive fell. And now John Major has done it again. He has managed to antagonise not just Sinn

.........

100

TO THE PERSON

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To the second

Fein but the entire nationalist community and the Irish government. Having appointed a commission which came up with a formula to save faces all round, why did he not accept it? And why has he failed to consult?

In America, power comes cheap

THE Electricity Association defends astoundingly high use a different currency. the electricity prices in Britain "dollar", which is tinted by claiming that, by comparison, one American company charges nearly 17 pence per kilowatt-hour (Letters, Janu-

ary 25). In fact, this single American company (out of one thousand) charges 17 cents — not pence — that is, about 11p, near the British average. The

Gregory Palast. Union Associates, 64 Second Avenue, New York. NY 10003 USA.

Please include a full postal address, even on e-mailed letters, and a daytime near the British average. The average American domestic customer pays only 5p.

Someone should inform the likely to appear. We regret we telephone number. We may edit highly compensated new cap-tains of your electricity in-

The merry vibes of Windsor

become overburdened with traffic, but, for some very strange reason, this was not Berkshire RG15 0LZ.

Bypassing the bypass (again)

T seems that Newbury MP taken into consideration a David Rendel is not totally few years ago, when planning familiar with the present-day permission was granted for a

bypass?

Barham.

SELDOM have I read a more moving letter, nor a PRINCE Charles's call to benefits, also provided for celebrate the approaching free, of the normal functioning more honest one, than that new millennium is inspirafrom Dr Bob Johnson, the senior psychiatrist who has tional (Make it a matter of the spirit, January 25). He is in resigned his post at Park-hurst Prison (Jail shock for effect asking us to see it as an opportunity to reconsider the Howard, January 27). I can anticipate the reaction of basic assumptions of the materialist world view that has prevailed in the latter part of those whose credo is "Lock 'em up and throw away the the present millennium. key". And what good does such an attitude do? The cru-

One such assumption is that all benefits are man-made the product of science, tech-nology and industry, ie of economic development or progress, and made available via the market or by state institutions.
For politicians and econo-

mists who have been trained in these ideas, no value of any kind is attributed to the invaluable, irreplaceable services provided for free by the natural functioning of normal human families and communities. Until recently, these included the production of food and artefacts, the maintenance of law and order and even much of the business of government itself. Nor is any value attributed to the equally

free, of the normal functioning of ecological systems — bene-fits that they are alone capable of assuring on anything but an insignificant scale; the fer-tility of our soil, the replenishment of our water supplies and the stability of our climate. If no value is attributed to these critical benefits, none can be attributed either to the families, the communities or the ecological systems that provide them, and which must

clearly constitute our real

wealth. It follows that we can

annihilate them, as we are systematically doing today,

superstore and attendant car

parks alongside this already busy road. Many wise New-

burians predicted that hor-

rendous traffic congestion

would follow in the wake of this large commercial

Will the second Newbury

bypass be the last Newbury

Rosemarie Johnson

with impunity. Clearly a society that entertains such a dogma must be incapable of solving the ever more pressing problems of today. It must thus be a priority to reconsider it seriously as it must the other equally untenable assumptions that underlie the aberrant world view with which we have all

been imbued. Edward Goldsmith. The Ecologist. 32-34 Paradise Road, invaluable and irreplaceable Richmond, Surrey TW9 1SE.

A Country Diary

SOMERSET: Amongst the drop a tail once. After each substantial houses of Castle combing he flattens the end Cary stands an arch with an inscription carved in stone: "John Boyd 1837", and if you trace the course of the River Cary, you come to a range of three-storey mill buildings once powered by a great water-wheel, where I was shown John Boyd's original looms of 1872 (now electrically-powered) clattering busily in 1996 to produce a lustrous, delicately patterned furnishing fabric from horse-hair. Some of the fabric is identical to that used by Hep-plewhite. Lutyens employed Boyd fabrics, and now there are new designs (controlled by a system of ancient wooden pegs on the loom) for modern furniture designers. John Boyd first spotted a market when everyone here rode a horse, and tails were regularly cropped. Suppliers washed them in the town pond. Now tails come from China, and in a small room

with a wooden bat. Original hoists operate between the floors of the mill, but if you need more evidence that this industry really is labour-intensive, you must climb three flights of wooden stairs to where someone sits at a table teasing out individual hairs by hand from a white tail to set aside those that are not pure white. Children used to be employed to separate single hairs to feed into the looms, but when, in 1870, the law sent them to school, the shrewd industrialist invented the "John Boyd Picker", which mechanically takes up the hairs one by one. It was extraordinary to watch his original "pickers" (all repairs done and replacement parts made, necessarily, in house) still picking away so effectively as to produce fabrics that have just won "Best Product" prize at the "Decorex" exhibition, Downdownstairs, a man takes each stairs again, the finished fabtail and draws it through a metal comb. This is called Somerset cider-press. Somerset cider-press.

JOHN VALLINS "hackling". He says you only

Matthew Norman

ENTLEMAN Charite
Wilson, the fey Glaswegian acting editor
of the Independent, is fabled
for his love of high culture.
So it was no surprise to find So it was no surprise to find yesterday's back page de-voted to a row in the world of opera. Both the Royal Opera House and music pro-moter Raymond Gubbay are putting on La Bohème, but tickets to Mr Gubbay's production at the Albert Hall are vastly cheaper. Baving quoted Mr Gubbay attacking the "clitist and wasteful" Opera House, reporter John McKie asked Covent Garden stalwart Fraser Gordon to defend the ticket prices. This he did vigorously, citing the small number of seats and high number of productions, and lauding a level of excellence that Mr Gubbay cannot match. "They're not going to be getting someone like Bernard Haitink to conduct, or Placido Domingo to sing for one concert," he pointed out. Mr Gordon is most persuasive. One thing is puz-zling: nowhere in this fulsome report does it mention his job title. Intrigued, I rang Covent Garden yesterday, and was told that Fraser Gordon is . . . a security guard. Gentleman Charlle will be thrilled that, however elitist the Opera House

HE energy-efficiency charity NEA, which lost a third of its income in the Budget, is try-ing to claw some back. It has invited 30 well-known figures to give it the £50 soon to be given to electricity customers as a rebate. The news is mixed. Comediens Rory Bremner, Ben Elton and Richard Wilson have agreed. But Mr John Major has refused. So has the man responsible for the rebate, industry regulator Stephen Littlechild, and so has Gordon Brown, whose oft-stated aim — to prevent the old and poor suffering through government energy policy — would seem to tie in neatly with the chari-ty's. "It's a bit of a mental leap from having a rebate on paper." says the NEA's director Andrea Cook, "to getting them physically to write the cheque."

may be, his reporters most certainly are not.

ELEBRATIONS for the 10th anniversary of the move to Wapping took different directions last week. At Wap-ping itself, Mr Murdoch ashed out to reward the loyalty of Times staff; they received a carriage clock, a voucher for a free meal in the canteen (picket crumble for pudding), and a modest thought: "1986-96 The Times at Wapping. I made it happen". Meanwhile, in a tough no-nonsense counter-strike, the print unions had a giant bash of their own. The party, at a hotel in Bloomsbury on Saturday night, went ahead as planned, despite a last-minute crisis when hundreds of letters correcting the address of the venue named on the tickets were sent out. The letter blamed this on "a printing error".

URSTING through that tiresome actorly stereotype is my friend Richard E Grant, whose diary (wittly en-titled With Nails) is serialised this week in the Daily Express. In 1986, having gone a year without working. Richard E watches himself act on telly. "Tears are streaming down my face," he confides. "I go for a brontosaurus smooch." Mm. Later that year, he was called back for a second reading to play Withnail (would he go? "You bet your sweet twinklechops, Baby"), and was given the job. "Every molluse that squelched doubt and 'you haven't a flea's chance' be boiled," he says in celebra-tion. "Love is made, shops are shopped, vases are flow-ered and talk is peppered with possibility."

EW evidence sug-gests that much of the audience to Crime Watch, BBC1's monthly feast of voyeuristic thrills. may need Dutch courage before switching on. After last Thursday's episode fea-tured one of those inevita-ble reconstructions, the switchboard was quickly jammed by callers claiming to recognise the girl driving the blue Ford Fiests. They had seen her before, they said, in the Wash and Go shampoo commercial.



Far-sighted view from the tripod

Commentary

Hugo Young

HE MOST awe-inspiring political figure I've met this year goes by the name of Ballin. At a time when party leaders are hyping their sincerity machines into overdrive, strain-ing to prove the other man the bigger hypocrite, Ballin makes frauds of them all. For 16 days and nights, he lived ten feet above the ground, dangling from a scalfolding tripod, exposed to the bitter-est winds of winter, descending only to cook and defecate, available for civilised discus-sion about national transport policy with anyone who passed by the Newbury crossroads where he perched. One is reminded, first of all, that neither Mr Major nor Mr Blair has ever made a truly personal sacrifice for anything he believes in.

Ballin is 31 and an edu-Ballin is 31 and an edu-cated, cheerful man, but his conduct looks like madness. Although he had his few

holds no place in the national

longer relevant. Our society today is both far more individ-

ualised and far more frag-mented than in the past. Nor

But it is in work that argu-

sumers and lack of power at work. As consumers we have

at our disposal an extraordi-nary range of choice. Gleam-

argument. Like Simeon Stylitas, the 5th century saint who lived on a pillar, he sends only a signal against the decadence of certain forms of modernity. And, as is usually the fate of such uncomfortable prophets, he provoked uncontrollable rage. The other night, he was littened by protest, and as such has put most maintened by protest and as such has put most maintened by protest and as such has put most maintened by protest and as such has put most maintened by protest and as such has put most maintened by protest and as such has put most most maintened by protest and as such has put most most maintened by protest and as such has put most most maintened by protest and as such has put most most maintened by protest and a The other night, he was pulled down from his tripod by three local toughs calling themselves vigilantes, who said they would put a pickaxe through his head if he got through his head if he got back up. The police took rather longer to arrive at his squat, whose protection under statute had yet to be challenged, than they would at a burglary in the local manor-house.

Rellie her retired burst His

Ballin has retired hurt. His vision, however, remains intact. His argument, and that of many other Newbury protesters, can for the first time be said to be winning. He is not, he told me from his eyrie, against people owning cars, only in favour of a public transport system that enables them often to be dispensed with. His encyclopaedic knowledge of the roads around Newbury is displayed to show how this could be ar-ranged. Although he looks like a crank, and is behaving with pitiful lack of respect for what seem to be the economic trends, he is in fact the prophet of the coming ortho-doxy. Newbury is the last

Highways Agency will have trouble recruiting enough expert climbers to do the pert climners to do the police's dirty work and evict him from the vertiginous walkways his friends have built in the trees. He's pitching for solidarity among the rock-climbing crowd. There's also a naive idea that EU regulations for the protection of breeding birds operable from breeding birds, operable from mid-March, will be enforced by the constabulary. But the realists believe that the might of the chainsaw, wielded with political muscle, will prevail. They are oddly content. Their real ambition is a lot more strategic than the zealots of our professional political par-ties usually dare to be: to raise the cost, both financial and political, of this road so high that similar roads will not in future be built. In this they have perhaps already

In the last Budget, roads spending was cut by 30 per cent and Newbury was the only hig bypass to survive. Earlier, political protest mediated through marginally threatened Tory MPs stopped

Geoff Mulgan fleshes out Tony Blair's plans for a new Britain, but insists that without a tax-funded right to work, the rhetoric of 'inclusion' is mere empty words

A high-stake society

yond that, the philosophy of vironmental protection, road-building has gone the same way as the economic cerinise as speaking a more duratitudes that once seemed to make it incontestable. This make it incontestable. This has been registered in speeches by the Environment Secretary, John Gummer. It is underlined by the shift in academic analysis, again quietly supported by ministers who want to save money, towards the idea that car-use might be costed, controlled, deterred and prevented, rather than induled. Thus, the thesis once and prevented, rather than indulged. Thus, the thesis once
advanced by Ballin and his
kind against a bail of derision
— that large bypass schemes
have an inexorable tendency
to multiply traffic — is approaching the status of con-ventional official wisdom. What's happening at New-bury is, therefore, the acting-

out of time-warp politics. It is true there was a planning inquiry. But that was in 1988, before the need was recog-What's happening at Newbury

is the acting-out of time-warp politics

nised for environmental impact assessments. Alternative schemes, built around traffic control rather than demand were at a less sophisticated stage of evolution. Updated studies the Highways Agency purports to have made last year are kept, suspiciously, secret. The truth is that the case for the bypass, considered in the light of modern knowledge and understanding, dare not be exposed to a new test of public judgment. As between the law of the bulldozer, which has sbortterm attraction to some local

ble truth, nothing seems able to stop the immediate ascendancy of might over right.

This is not, of course, an easy imbalance for a politician to challenge. Better public transport cannot be instantly arranged, though in Newbury it would cost a frac-tion of the bypass. Park-and-ride schemes, traffic-calming and car-share bonuses would have limited effect. Upgrad-ing rail freight services for abject failure over the bypass nothing exceeds the odium that should be heaped on the Liberal Democrats.

Here was a place where the party that is proudly green had the chance to teach other politicians a lesson. Their 1992 election manifesto said road schemes should be ap-proved only where alterna-tives cost more, economically and environmentally. News-bury doesn't pass that test. Protecting the landscape and sites of special scientific in-terest bulked large among the promises. Three such sites will be wrecked by the byposs. Yet who is in charge of Newbury council? A Lib Dem majority. And who is the Newbury MP? A Lib Dem. who echoes the councillors in

urging the chainsaws on, in the teeth of all protest. Here was an opportunity for the Liberal Democrats to carve out a different path: to apply their general principle to a particular situation they are in a position to influence, to argue for the new orthodoxy rather than assist the old. They flunked it. In power, it seems, they are no different from the short-termist destroyers in other parties. For the vision that gets things changed, look to the man suspended, crazily, from his

which we now dimly recognise as speaking a more dura-Turkey, now Sarah's there



Catherine Bennett

ARAH COOK'S decision to exchange the charms of Braintree, in Essex. for those of Kahramanmaras, in south-eastern Turkey, has been greeted with surprise and consternation. Much has been made of the "run down",
"dingy" and "cramped"
apartment which she currently shares with her Turk-ish in-laws. For television, we hear, she must rely on a dinear, sne must rely on a di-minutive Grundig, on which Neighbours is never to be seen! Further investigation has revealed that Kahraman-maras has no pubs, only two night clubs, and no leisure facilities of note. Its main "dusty". Even the Turkish beggars, "shrouded head to foot in black", are inferior, it is implied, to the colourful

British variety.
Yet, leaving aside the question of Miss Cook's tender years, her decision to leave the country is surely emi-nently reasonable. She has merely done what millions of has escaped, decamped, scarpered, done a bunk. She has taken herself off to sunnier climes; she has in her own small way expressed much the same view of Britain as all the residence secondaire and casa colonica enthusiasts, the Mortimers and Byatts, the Chancellors and Raphaels of this world. A asement in Kahramanmaras may not quite compare with The Towers of Trebizond, nor even with a year in Provence, but for her part Miss Cook pronounces herself well pleased with her change in circumstances: "I am treated better here than in England." Should we really be sur-prised? All she has ever known, after all, is Conserva-

tive government. Was it, per haps, last year's appointment of Michael Heseltine as Deputy Prime Minister and First Secretary of State that finally pushed her over the edge? But there are so many other reasons why Miss Cook might have wanted to leave Britain. of male career criminal who will never grow out of their habit, preying on their fellow generation of 11- to 14-yearolds who can neither read nor compute adequately, she considered her job prospects, and found domestic chores in Turkey the more appealing op-tion? Anyway, what does a about it.

young Briton most want to do, after exhausting the de-lights of our pubs and super-markets, the lottery and the soaps? To buy a holiday in Turkey, a time-share in the Algarve, or a retirement home in Marbella. Miss Cook has merely taken the waiting out of wanting.

has merely taken the waiting out of wanting.
Sadly, she emigrated before Tony Blair could offer her a place in his soaraway, stakeholder society. Possibly, this scintillating scheme might have changed her mind. But for many of us it has come too late I cooking shout Miss. late. Looking about, Miss Cook must have taken a dim view of the future. By the time she grows up, will Britain be anything other than a great, overcrowded housing estate, seething beneath neon-yellow skies, a maze of precincts and car parks, criss-crossed with motorways on which British drivers exercise their traditional right to drive into one another at high speed?

It's possible, of course, that
Miss Cook's distaste for Britain has a cultural component.

Surfeited on Blind Date and Baywatch, she fled before Top-less Darts and The Girlie Show became a reality. Had she stayed, she might have seen Jeremy Isaacs on The House, promising that two amphitheatre seats at Covent Garden would leave her "change out of £100". But why, Miss Cook might argue, should she spend money to see Trevor Nunn's unhappy, painted horses in Katya Kabanova, when she can now see any amount of carts and livestock, au naturel, all for

HAT else has Miss Cook missed, lan-guishing in her primitive basement? The threat of power blackouts? A new scheme to teach infants about alcohol, as well as sex? Lottery roll-overs, with their repeti-tious sequence of greed, deravings of the Queen of Hearts
— or, more importantly for a Charles, that crusading tam-pon-lover, on the spiritual di-mension of the millennium?

Can the simple human kind-ness which she claims to enjoy in Turkey really make up for our superb supply of satel-lite dishes and mobile phones, our uniquely aggressive foot-ball supporters and incompa-rably vulgar tabloids? She has owned to missing English food, and here it must be admitted, we have something move between jobs as well as the latest crime figures, and ramammaras, a plate of lasa-power within a job is critical. the emergence of a new breed gne and chips, frozen garlic bread or a take-away pizza service? Are crinkle-cut crisps, Kit-Kats and Diet Coke citizens until too enfeebled to rob, knife and mug any considerations must have longer? Maybe, as part of a given her pause. Yet having weighed everything in the bal-ance, she has, like so many British people, turned against her native country. Unlike most, however, she has had the initiative to do something



like Meadowhall and Thurrock. New powers of choice have been introduced into health and education. Yet as workers most of us are powerless. We're there to be seen and not heard, with minimal rights to information or to a voice. If the customer is king, the employee is a serf. The result is almost a double life, a schizophrenic contrast between the power we have as consumers, during the four hours we apprisone in the nearly 40 hours we spend each week at work.

Unfortunately this is not an easy subject to debate. Although in his speech Blair acknowledged that the most important stake for anyone is

important symbol of citizen-ship even than a vote or constitutional rights. The second is education and employability. In a more fluid abour market, the stakes that matter are inside people's heads. Without affordable access to skills, preferably

repaid (as university educa-tion should be) through the tax or national-insurance sys-tem, few can have any real sense of choice about their The third key is a guarantee of economic security. The virtue of insurance models like Singapore's is not just that they allow people to see their savings in an account — a form of individualised collectivism. They can also be designed to pay not just for pensions or care, but also for a period out of work to train or to look after children. In other words, they can alleviate the fear of redundancy by ensuring a reasonable income (at least for a few months) and by financing more creative uses of periods out of work than a mad scramble for jobs which don't exist.

Fourth, we need govern-ments to set some new ground-rules for the employ-ment contract. Too many of these are now simply exploit-ative, entailing no obligations on the part of employers. At the very least, zero-hour con-tracts should be prohibited and employers should be required to train and to help find new jobs for anyone they make redundant.

Finally, true inclusion and true stakeholding depend on real ownership powers rather than vague rights to consulta-tion. Employee ownership is still seen as marginal in this country, mainly because most schemes are seen as tax efficient ways to pay workers, rather than as involving ownership and responsibility. But across the world a revolution is taking place in terms of attitudes to employee ownership. In the US large firms like Avis and United Airlines are worker-owned, and in many hi-tech firms (like the 20,000-employee Science Applications Interna-tional) far more sophisticated and complex shareholding arrangements are being devised that reflect the complexities of what people bring to the firm. In each case employees buy in financial capital rather than the other way around — and, crucially, accept the risk

that entails.

Labour is right to focus on what "one nation" means in a radically changing society. But its challenge now is to be true to its own origins and acknowledge that it is at work that inclusion counts for most. put meat on the bones so as to offer a sense of membership and belonging that matches up to the appeal of home and share ownership, the very different membership badges the Conservatives offered with



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Dialectics at the opera

glio at the Frankfurt Opera House, and amid a storm of boos and catcalls from the audience, a stage hand told me: "Later we will be able to understand what this means. She is 10 years ahead of us." He was talking about Ruth Berghaus who had directed the Mozart opera. Berghaus, who has died

aged 68, remained up to her last production — the pre-miere of Rolf Liebermann's Freispruch für Medea last year — ahead of her time. She never accepted the conven-tional way of opera making. and always took a fresh, often radical look at the well-estabis why booing accompanied her career from her first staging of Richard Strauss's Elek-tra at the Berlin State Opera Ruth Berghaus was born in

Dresden and it was there. after the war, and a brief internment, that she studied dance and choreography at Gret Palucca's school. In 1951 Palucca sent her pupils to see Bertolt Brecht's Mother Courage, an occasion which pro-vided Berghaus's first encoun-ter with the Berliner Ensemble. Berghaus was so impressed that she moved to Berlin to continue her training, first with Wolfgang Langhoff then at Brecht's theatre. There she met Paul Dessau, Brecht's composer, and they married in 1964. Palucca, Brecht and Dessau in-fluenced the young choreographer and it is thanks to them that in Berghaus's work dance, music and theatre were brought together in a unique

She successfully transfered Brecht's techniques to opera, a task Brecht had thought impossible. And from him she learned the *erzählerische* arrangement — his art of creating a story on stage. She had been directing Dessau's operas, but it was when Wieland Berghaus met designers Erich

When she choreographed the battle scenes for the Ber-liner Ensemble's 1964 production of Coriolanus, it was her mixture of acting and dance 1971 when Helene Weigel, Brecht's widow died, she became artistic director of Brecht's Theater am Schiffopera and theatre one could trace her origins in dance in the way she used movement patterns, although it could attract criticism since audi-ences sometimes found her sign language hard to under-stand and missed the tradi-

Emotion did not have to be shown experienced by the audience

tional operatic behaviour, which she refused to show. Despite clashes with the East German authorities, who labelled her avant-gardism "unpatriotic", she remained a member of the Communist Party and was allowed to bloc. Her first production in the West was of Dessau's The Judgement Of Lucullus, in Mainz. It was followed by Ros-sini's The Barber Of Seville in Magic Flute in Frankfurt. The managers in Munich were not as courageous as Michael Gielen, musical and artistic director of the Frankfurt opera, who invited her back. She returned frequently to Frankfurt, directing a repertoire from Mozart and Janacek to Berlioz and Wagner. There, thanks to Gielen and his chief

Elektra, that her career took and architect Hans Dieter Schaal. She continued to work with all three outside Frank-

> During her years in that city it was her productions of almost unknown pieces like Janacek's The Makropulos Affair or Berlioz's The Trojans which were extraordifrom the traditional repertoire by Mozart and Wagner were, especially initially, rejected by the public. But audiences did get used to her style, and her mid-eighties production of wagner's Ring becams a cult-event with Berghaus and Gle-len given a 75-minute standing ovation after the last perforon to show her unique style in Vienna, Cardiff, Hamburg, Paris and Zurich. She also returned to her origins, directing both ballets and plays. She was often criticised for

sile was often crincised for cold and emotionless produc-tions. However she countered this by explaining that emo-tion did not have to be shown but rather experienced by the audience through her direc-tion. Coming from the Brechtian school, she purposely avoided any identification approach was analytical never psychological. She wanted people to think about what they saw, understand connec-tions and relate them to themelves. Yet all this did not stop her audiences from being moved by her work. Her Traviate in Stuttgart, one of her few experiences with Giu-seppe Verdi, was a notable ex-ample. More was to come but the cancer which eventually killed her stopped her from exploring his work any further. Die Soldaten by Zimmermann was another opera which she had always wanted to direct but although the project was discussed in Paris, London and with me in Amsterdam it never got off the ground. It would have been perfect for her. Singers, actors and dan-cers loved working with her



prepared and took all her ideas right from the score, with sometimes an unex-pected directness. She never sked the impossible from a singer but she loved that special artificial constitution stage. She used and transformed it into her own unique

language.
The fall of the Berlin wall and the new political situation did not work to Berghaus's advantage. She always regarded herself as a faithful citizen of the German Democratic ence she suffered from the censor. As a person and an

erary" style, the letters were copied by Olga and dissemi-

After Havel's release that

spired by Havel's play Temp-tation, which first articulated

the idea that with the wasting

away of the body politic even

from official critics writing

pseudonymously. It became one of the most respected

journals in Czechoslovakia and, more importantly, a forum where dissident and

civic elements — which spon-taneously ignited in the 1989 Velvet Revolution — were

able to meet. When Havel was elected

president later that year, Olga

necessity to change her politi-cal attitude according to the new circumstances. For her, unlike many East Germans, work continued to flow in

She remained, despite all the personal criticism, a very vulnerable person who hoped for nothing more than that au-diences should understand her work. An era is at its end but we will still need some time to catch up with Ruth

Klaus Bertisch

Ruth Berghaus, choreographer and director, born July 2, 1927;

Another Day life raft. Although severely constrained by the prison "lit-

morning. William chopped wood — I brought it in. A nated among fellow literati. The Letters To Olga were first published in a samizdat edicold wind. W slept better, but he thinks he looks ill — he is shaving now. He asks me to set down the story of Barbara same year harassment contin-ued. In 1987 Olga was instru-Wilkinson's turtle dove. Barbara is an old maid. She had died, the first year I think. The other continued to live dat theatre magazine O Divadle (On Theatre). The magazine provided a platform for variations on Faust inalone in its cage for nine years, but for one whole year it had a companion and daily used to come and feed with it; and the dove would caress it, evil had become pathetically degenerate. O Divadle soon attracted contributions both from the underground and and cower over it with its wings, and make a loving noise to it. The mouse, though it did not testify equal delight in the dove's company, yet it was at perfect ease. The poor mouse disap-peared, and the dove was left solitary till its death. It died of a short sickness, and was buried under a tree with fu-neral ceremony by Barbara and her maidens, and one or two others.

W worked at The Pedlar all the morning. He kept the dinner waiting till four o'clock. Dorothy Wordsworth, Journals (Fraser Stewart, 1992)

January 30, 1802: A cold dark

southern moralist whose fer-

was a pioneer of British technology. British rocketry, a consulting Pointing out that £9 million

among the most articulate a year was less than the cost and critical commentators on of a few miles of motorway the British government's ab- and much less than is spenton sence of space policy. He first fireworks on November 5,

ballistic missile. When Blue Streak was cancelled as a defence project, Pardoe argued for the modification of the rocket as the first stage of the European satellite launcher. Europea, financed as a non-military project by Britain, France, Germany, Holland. and Italy through the ill-fated European Launcher Development Organisation (Eldo). The Eldo project was the first collaborative aerospace

Geoffrey Pardoe

programme of its kind and Pardoe felt at home in it because, on top of his expertise and experience, he spoke flu-ent French and German. Blue Streak never failed but Europa-1 ran into repeated and costly second and third stage failures during its first series of test flights, and was Government withdrew sup-port in 1971. The French Ariane launcher programme, with its greater payloads and

Space Agency and thrived. who has died of a Pardoe never forgave the government for this betrayal of

Westminster a rocket

Boffin who gave



Pardoe argued fiercely that this trivial saving might put Britain out of spaceflight for good. Since he saw space and later other governmentneglected developments such as advanced energy systems — as of great importance to technological and national prosperity, he addressed the

EOFFREY Pardoe, | the newly created European | high-tech engineering and information consultancy (GTS) in the science park at Brunel University, and then sought to publicise what governments should be doing. An articulate man of great energy and cheerfulness he became the independent expert to whom the media turned for comment. At a deeper level he sought to formulate coherent policies for Britain. To many journalists and colleagues he was a mentor and friend.

Pardoe, whose sprightly step indicated natural stilleticism, was trained at Loughborough College of Technology, and went into rocket; design at Armstrong Whitdesign at Armstrong Whit-worth, producing, among other things, the Seaslug guided missile. Becoming a specialist in aerodynamics and rocket flight analysis, he took over Blue Streak in 1957. But his deepest concerns eventually lay with the maintenance of advanced indus-tries and in the beneficial apsociety. In 1986 he became chairman of the Watt Com-mittee on Energy, an organi-sation concerned in the pro-motion of improved energy

Geoffrey Pardge, engineer, born

Raiph Yarborough

massive government support.

replaced Blue Streak under

Lone star liberal

tried vainly to drag the Texas Democrats the party. He was the only southern senator to vote for President Lyndon Johnson's Civil Rights Act in 1984. It was Senator Yarbor-

Texan politics that caused President Kennedy to fly to Dallas in November 1963, hoping to patch things up before the coming election. The Senator was in the car following Kennedy's when the Presi-dent was assassinated.

Yarborough's political career began in the fifties when the Democrats still enjoyed the unbreakable hold after the civil war. Some fol-lowed a fairly liberal line in national and international affairs, but their stance on black advancement was un-

The unpopularity of the alternative view was made quite clear to Yarborough, then a young Austin lawyer, when defeated in gubernatorial campaigns in 1952, 1954, and 1956. But then he unexpectedly won a special senate election in 1957 when the incumbent became governor. He was soon at odds with the senate majority leader, and fellow Texan, Lyndon Johnson. Their disagreements, in part, were those of two liberals disputing

the best way forward. Johnson was the ultimate wheeler-dealer, concerned with ends not means. Yarbor-ough was an old-fashioned them tossing campaign con-tributions into an old blanket laid out in the prairie dust.

Within a year or two, the Texas party was riven. One group was led by the gover-

nor, John Connally, and Vice-President Johnson, the other

Yarborough . . . moralist

by Yarborough, President Kennedy, who had won in 1960 by the slimmest margin, needed the Texas vote if he was to be re-elected.

The feud was patched up in the aftermath of the assassination, with Yarborough giv-ing full-throated support to Johnson's great society. But it could not last and they were soon at odds again over the Vietnam war, with Yarborough supporting a small country's right to self-deter-mination and alarmed by the the conflict caused at home. As the 1968 presidential

ALPH Yarborough, vent lectures to his bemused campaign began, he threw his who has died aged 92, electors often ended with support behind the anti-war contender for the Democratic nomination, Senator Eugene McCarthy. Johnson an-nounced in March that he would not run.

for Yarborough. By now he had become chairman of the fare committee which allowed him to sponsor a wide range ities. Federal laws he shepherded on to the statute book dealt with such issues as improved health care, higher minimum wages and better job training. But he had burned his boats

in Texas and was soundly defeated in the 1970 primary losing again in 1972: Texas had had its fill of liberals. His re-election in 1964 was the last time the state returned anyone of his stripe to national office.

Harold Jackson

Raiph Webster Yarborough, politician, born June 8, 1903; died January 27, 1996

Death Notices

ded peacefully 27 of Ja. 1.15bm at Wath Tributy No flowers Donabons

in Memoriam

Czech mate . . . Olga Havlova was always Václav Havel's partner in resistance

Olga Havlova

Vaclav Havel would observe: "Olga and I has died of cancer aged 62, grew up in Ziźkov, Prague's working-class district, and began her working life at the Bata shoe factory. Her desire

Jackdaw

Open season

DEAR President Clinton. Please come out for a flat

income tax and beat the

Republicans to the punch.

Then you and Mrs Clinton

can return to your true mis-

sion — to bring health care

and economic prosperity to

all Americans . . . America

has been good to me. As an

author. I have enjoyed the

American dream, I can per-

sonally testify to the fact that

the more I make, the more I

tax deductions. I spread my

Anne Rice

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Between 1975 and 1989 they published 300 titles.
By the early eighties dissidents who had not already defected were, like Havel, in prison. In 1981, Olga was detained for four days and inter-rogated about her involvement in Edice Expedice. She became Havel's link with the outside world. To the annoyance of the authorities, she continued to host gatherings at the farmhouse. Havel's

care for all, and a new respect

Anne Rice. PS. This is a personal note to

reprinted and quoted by any-

one, however, please do not distort the contents.

From the pen of the author of

Interview With The Vampire,

an open letter to President Clinton, published in Variety.

THE VILLAGE of Nanjie

seems every bit a part of the New China with its modern

brewery, instant-noodle fac-

plant, all joint ventures with Japanese and German inves-

tors. The people work hard,

and life there has never been

But there's a curious com-

ponent to Nanjie's success, as

a stroll through the village

square demonstrates. Stand-ing 10 metres proud is a mar-

ble statue of the late Great

Helmsman, surrounded by

signs exhorting the villagers

tory and colour printing

Retrosoc

President Clinton. It is not

copyrighted and can be

for individuality and

Yours sincerely.

individualism.

began to search for a role for herself. She gathered together launched the Committee of Good Will, a charity which

prison letters — a weekly allowance of one four-page

Birthdays

names more pronounceable.

"For six years, we have stood by while names like

Ygrjyslhv and Tzlynhr and Glrm have been horribly

Jack Bowman, chief constal actor, 64; Patrick Heron, ray, pop song writer and proble, Tayside, 65; David painter, 76; Christopher ducer, 56; Louis Osman, ar-Brown, cricketer, 54; Sir Howes, chief executive, chitect and goldsmith, 83; Hal Fred Catherwood, econo- Crown Estate, 54; Lord Hun-Prince, theatrical director and producer, 68; Victoria Principal, actress. 46; John Profumo, president, Toynbee Hall, 81; Vanessa Redgrave, actress, 59; Boris Spassky, chessmaster, 58.

130 transport planes, each carrying over 500 24-count butchered by millions around the world," Clinton said. "Today, the United States must finally stand up and say 'Enough'. It is time the people of Bosnia finally had some vowels in their in-

OUT THERE?

Maoworld . . . Time

comprehensible words. The US is proud to lead the crusade in this noble endeavor The deployment, dubbed Operation Vowel Storm by the State Department, is set for early next week, with the Adriatic port cities of Silbydnzy and Grzny slated to be the first recipients. Two C-

boxes of "E's", will fly from Andrews Air Force Base across the Atlantic and airdrop the letters. Citizens of Grzny and Silbydnzy eagerly await the arrival of the vowels. "My

God, I do not think we can last another day," Trszg Grzdnikin, 44, said. "Thave six children and none of them has a name that is understandable to me or to anyone else. Mr Clinton, please send my poor, wretched family just one 'E'. Please."

Said Silbydnzy resident Grg Hmphrs, 67: "With just a ew key letters. I could be George Humphries. This is

If the initial airlift is successful. Clinton said the United States will go ahead

with full-scale vowel deploy-ment, with C-130's airdropping thousands more letters over every area of Bosnia.
Other nations are expected to pitch in as well, including 10,000 British "A's" and 6,500 Canadian "Us"

The airdrop represents the largest deployment of any letter to a foreign country since 1984. During the summer of that year, the US shipped 92,000 consonants to Ethiopia, providing cities like
Ouaouoana. Eaoiluae, and
Aao with vital, lifegiving sup plies of L's, S's and T's. The consonant-relief effort failed, however, when vast quantities of the letters were inter-cepted and hoarded by violent, gun-toting warlords. Net humour, found on the Internet's untronically titled rec.humor.funny newsgroup.

Jackdaw wants your jewels. Email jackdawa guardian-.co.uk.; fax 0171-713 4366; Jack-daw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London ECIR SER.

Dan Glaister

First lady of dissent

are very different. I am a child of the middle class and ever the diffident intellectual. very much her own person, sober, unsentimental, and she mouthy and obnoxious; in other words, as we say, you can't get her drunk on a bun." Indeed Olga Havlova, who

Expedice. Everything was

income among those I love

tives, young family members in college. These donations

are given with pleasure, and only hampered by the gift tax

system. Americans are workers. The graduated tax has de-

moralised them. A flat tax

and health care for all will rejuvenate our nation. We

need to give to others di-

rectly, without the fear that

our tax dollars go only to sup-

port the government at its

God bless the press. We

cannot live without them, but

they are cynical and they can

be petty. You are a brilliant President, and can lead us

out of the dark entanglement

of obsolete insurance plans,

clever tax evasion lawyers,

and confused and embittered

people who are out of work,

out hope ...

without health care and with-

We are a rich and energetic

dent Gore are our great cre-ative hope. I registered for the

first time in years in order to

vote for you, and I will vote

for you again. Please con-sider: Flat income tax, health

nation. You and Vice Presi-

HE Czech President into Prague's cafe society and Havel, until his imprison-vaclav Havel would her 1956 meeting with Vaclav ment in 1979, and afterwards observe: "Olga and I Havel; they married eight Olga, endorsed each volume.

Olga, who was Havel's first and most important critic, and usherette, while he was in-house playwright for the prestigious avant-garde Prague theatre Na Zábradli. In the early seventies, when Havel's works were banned. the couple moved to the country. In 1975 with fellow dissident Jan Lopatka, later editor of Letters To Olga, they formed the samizdat Edice

helps the disadvantaged and organises training for Czech medics in north America. Olga Havlova - who was, in the words of her husband, "the admittedly hidden hero" — was recently named Czech woman of the year.

Olga Havlova, political activist, born July 11, 1933; dred January to become an actress led her | published anonymously but | letter to one person only. Olga | 27, 1996

to PUT MAO ZEDONG

THOUGHT IN COMMAND

OF EVERYTHING. At sun-

rise the public-address sys

sunset, Socialism Is Fine.

Communal self-criticism ses-

sions are held regularly, and

houses, fields and business

enterprises are managed col-lectively. Wristwatches and

bicycles are the only items

sanctioned for private owner

ship, and they may soon be

communalised as well.
Nostalgia is running high
in modern China . . . The lo-

cals, to paraphrase the song.

find this retro-socialism fine

. . In 1965 Wang Hongbin, 44,

a longtime Communist Party

member and a charismatic

lage's future might best be

the past. He formed a volun-

tary farm collective...The strategy was successful by

pooled their land into the col-

lective . . . Wang, universally admired in Nanjie, attributes

the progressive economic sit-

uation to political correct-

ness. Private ownership is

virtually forbidden "We dis-

1990 all the villagers had

leader, proposed that the vil-

assured by taking a step into

mist, Conservative MEP, 71: tingdon, racehorse trainer, Phil Collins, rock singer, 48; Lord Lowry, former Lord drummer. actor, 45; Christina Foyle, bookseller, 85; Nick Gaselee, racehorse trainer, 57; Gene Hackman, Media Group, 60; Mitch Mur-

courage people from holding personal bank accounts," kind in American history, will provide the region with says village cadre Li Heqian the critically needed letters ... in return, residents enjoy the cradle-to-grave benefits A, E, I, O and U, and is hoped to render countless Bosnian

of classic socialism: free housing, utilities, health care and education. Salaries are low but that doesn't appear to be a drawback. More than 10,000 migrants have come, quadrupling the population, in search of the embrace of Nanjie's neocommunist culture . . . Of course, socialism may run better in a tightly knit village than in a country of 1.2 billion. And Nanjie's brand of Maoism has a major

advantage over its predeces-sor: there's no Mao around to mess it up. Time looks back to the future in an examination of the retroreforms in the Chinese village of Nanjie.

Vowel-drop BEFORE AN emergency

joint session of Congress yesterday, President Clinton announced US plans to deploy over 75,000 vowels to the wartorn region of Bosnia. The de-

sfund

"aders

^{Britannie} bla

notor insura

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finance Guardian

Eurotunnel is written down Open market for

UROTUNNEL faces an effective vote of no confidence as its main British-based banks make formal provisions against the company's £8 billion debt mountain.

The Midland Bank is expecied to become the first to confirm that it has put money aside to cover a possible bad debt when it unveils its full year financial results next

No formal announcement

Fidelity

reins in

its fund

traders

HE world's biggest and

ment manager, the Fi-

delity unit trust group, is reining in its traders with

cautionary new controls after becoming the subject

of a formal investigation by the US markets watchdog. the Securities and Ex-

change Commission.
The new policies involve

a sharp retreat from emerg-ing markets around the

world, rules that limit fund

managers to buying no

more than 15 per cent of

any company, and an end to risky and aggressive strate-gies which the markets

called "vulture investing". Now controlling \$550 bil-lion (£364 billion) in funds

in the US alone, and often accounting for 10 per cent of the daily trades on the

Fidelity exerts an extraordinary leverage on the mar-kets, and the SEC is investi-

gating whether its start-fund manager, Jeff Vinik, deliberately misled the

market.
The SEC inquiry began after reports that Mr Vinik

had been talking confi-dently and publicly about hi-tech stocks, in particular

Motorola, when the fund he

manages was unloading two-thirds of the \$933 mil-lion it held of Motorola

stock, and \$10 billion in hi-

Market-watchers acknowledge this as a tricky issue. From one viewpoint, Mr Vinik might be said to be bamboozling other in-

be bamboozing other in-vestors to buy or hold their hi-tech stocks, even as he was dashing for the exit. From another, he was res-ponsibly holding up the value of a market, and try-ing to pre-empt the influ-ence of his own investment decisions from artificially

depressing an important

market sector.
The group has now or

dered managers to stop talk-ing about individual stocks.

and analysts say that a far

more cautious investment strategy is being adopted.

1.00

PLINE SACRECA

Death Notices

in Memorian

sions can be expected. But the ing Lloyds, are thought to be visions worth as much as 30 hank, an HSBC subsidiary, planning similar provisions. | per cent of their outstanding bank, an HSBC subsidiary,

has decided to confirm the de-cision to make debt contin-gency plans if it is quizzed by City analysts.

Provisions, which have al-ready been part of the bank-ing community's continuing discussions with the Bank of England are also expected. England, are also expected from NatWest. It remains unclear whether the bank will be prepared to make any pub-lic comment about its expo-

sure. Midland and NatWest are the British banks with the biggest outstanding loans to

meaningful provisions on a debt of this size could be ex-pected to run into hundreds of millions of pounds. They will come as a further embarrassment to Eurotunnel as the financially pressed com-pany was earlier this year

was unable to keep up with the huge cost of servicing its

forced to negotiate an interest payment standstill because it

per cent of their outstanding loans when announcing their full year financial results. According to the unconfirmed reports, the request came from France's influential

Banking Commission.

A spokesman for Credit Lyonnais, one of the banks with the biggest exposure to Eurotunnel, last night said that the bank never commented on the question of provisions made on its bornard as

reports circulating in Paris losing confidence in Eurotun-claimed that French banks had been asked to make a particularly

pany, which is still locked in | forward proposals to the rest refinancing talks with its 225- of the consortium by March strong banking consortium.

Negotiations appear to be making little progress be-cause of the vast size of the financial problems confronting the company. According to well placed sources, all options are still being discussed, including the controverial possibility of swapping debt for equity.

The debt standstill agree

ment began in September al-though there is the option of extending this for another year if the four "agency" banks heading refinancing

With this deadline looking increasingly unrealistic, Eurotunnel is now considering appointing a mediator to help speed through the dis-

The mediator would hold the powers to look for a binding agreement between the creditor banks and Euro-

News that a mediator may be appointed was disclosed by Eurotunnel's French auditor. KPMG, under its obligation

a fair Exchange



Alex Brummer

tive of the Stock Ex-change, Michael Lawrence, may have lacked the communications skills to force the pace of regulatory and systems reforms during his brief tenure but his instincts were correct. The disclosure that he was days away from introducing a more transparent approach to insider trading inquiries, raises the question of what happened to his recommendations. Plainly, this will be a critical issue for the Treasury select committee to tackle when it begins what is likely to be the most thorough investigation into the role and

marketplace it is possible that cash market prices can be driven by trades outside the Stock Exchange's reach, through over-the-counter op-tions transactions or on the floor of the Liffe futures and options market. The first indi-cations of a Granada bid for rorte came through an un-usually high volume of op-tions contracts. This is an area which has been of some concern to the Securities & Investments Board.

Hanson town

THE highlight of the Hanson annual general meet-ing tomorrow will be the announcement of the £500 million investment in a yet to be named new town in Cambridgeshire, reclaimed reserve for the great crested newt. Among the names worth consideration are New Grantham, New Hull, Gordonstown, Whiteville, Whitechester, Gordon Springs, White Lakes and, boldest of

Edited by

future of the Stock Exchange

in modern times.

If the Lawrence proposal mystique which so often surrounds irregular movements in share prices before a material announcement, might be partly lifted. It was the former chief executive's intention that there would be a statement to the market each time the Stock Exchange's surveillance department detected an unusual movement. Details of such an investigation usually only emerge as a result of media questions.

Of course, in the modern

The purpose of announcing a Stock Exchange inquiry would be to assure investors about the integrity of the market. Moreover, having com-pleted its inquiry it would announce what action it had taken: such as passing a report on to the DTI. One of the great frustrations of City regulators is that after they have done the preliminary reports — such as those into Jeffrey Archer's alleged trad-ing in the shares of Anglia prior to the MAI bid - they are generally left to fester.
The DTI appears to agree that
present practice is wanting.
More openness may not be
second nature to John Kemp-Welch and the conservative factions on the council: but it is a sure-fire means of restor-

Dasa ambitions

AIMLER-BENZ Aero-space's decision to abandon Fokker might have been expected to have dented the German compa-

try. Manfred Bischoff, chief executive of Daimler's aerospace arm Dasa, does not ap-pear to agree. Over the week-end Mr Bischoff has been fleshing out a new approach based on expanding the product range of Airbus In-dustrie, where Dasa partners Aerospatiale, British Aero-space and Spain's Casa.

The Dasa rationale is that, in addition to its present line-up, Airbus needs to build both bigger and smaller planes to rival the American competition and that technical commonality — similar cockpit design, common components -- is a big seller with airlines. Arch-rival Bosing is well down this road.

Mr Bischoff's vision, how-ever, has no role for AIR, the regional jet marketing organi-sation involving BAe, Aero-spatiale and Italy's Alenia. AIR's products line-up is scarcely at the leading edge of technology and it is hardly a money spinner but why should the partners be asked to compete with themselves? They might also ask, post-Fokker, what Dasa would bring to the development of a

new regional jet.
Airbus Industrie's already mwieldy corporate structure, too, might struggle to accom-modate the substantial Far Eastern investment in the new regional jet, which is seen as vital to its success, but not other parts of the

product range.
Arguably it would be better business through AIR and then fold it into Airbus at a later date. But that would give Dasa rather less influence in shaping Europe's aerospace industry than it ap-

Stage managed

T HARDLY ranks as overpaid executives creaming off vast salaries at the expense of the consumer, but Stagecoach's acquisition of Greater Manchester Buses South still reeks of the public being disadvantaged as a

result of rushed privatisation.
The business was auctioned off less than two years ago for £25 million, but yesterday fetched £41 million, nearly two-thirds more.
The 1,900 or so bus drivers

who chipped in to buy the business in 1994 might well be celebrating their newly-found £10,000 windfalls. The people of south Manchester, whose bus fares have made the encertainly not be.

Britannic blames market congestion as its | £30m sale of Panmure Gordon to motor insurance business runs out of road

Julie Wolf in Brussels

OVES by the European Commission to tighten its grip on

corporate takeovers are cer-

tain to provoke flerce opposi-

tion from the British authori-

Karel Van Miert, the Com-

petition Commissioner, who

drew up the proposals, argues

that more mergers should be

sent to Brussels for clearance

instead of to national authori-

ties, such as the Monopolies

and Mergers Commission.

A green paper, expected to be adopted by the commission

at its weekly meeting tomor-row, contends that under the

EU's current merger rules too many deals with cross-border

implications are eluding the

EC's control.

BRITANNIC Assurance yesterday announced it was pulling out of motor insurance because the business was no longer worth its while. "This decision is based on the changed marketplace together with the increasing difficulty in delivering share

business," said the company.
The move highlights the rapidly changing nature of the UK motor insurance market, which has been funda-mentally altered by the new-style direct telephone insurers, notably market

leader Direct Line.
Large composite insurers,
such as Norwich Union, have responded with their own direct telephone operations. The fierce competition for

business has forced down motor premiums. Analysts believe that the rates are now so low - and have been for 18 months - that some companies must be making a loss. Last year the large compos-ites warned that they would not chase volumes of business at the expense of profits. A spokesman for Britannic said that to compete effect compared with more than two tively in the modern motor million for Direct Line. tively in the modern motor insurance market the company would have had to restructure completely. The

restructure completely. The company sells insurance door-to-door and does not have a direct telephone operation.

"It was not worthwhile to continue in the market," said the spokesman. He said Britance, which has just over a million car policyholders, and the spokesman. He said Britance, which has just over a million car policyholders, and the spokesman and spokesman for Sun Alliance, which has just over a million car policyholders, and the spokesman and spokesman for Sun Alliance, which has just over a million car policyholders.

bought and sold simply on the

the commission agreed that

only a limited number of very

large mergers should be vet-ted at EU level.

Under the EU's merger reg-ulation, which took effect in

September 1990, deals only

come into the commission's jurisdiction if the companies

involved have combined

global turnover of 5 billion ecu (£4 billion). Moreover, at

least two of the companies must have turnover of

250 million ecu within the EU. Mr Van Miert's green paper

calls for these thresholds to be cut to 2 billion and 100 mil-

lion ecu respectively. The commission calculates that

such a move would result in

tamic had seen the number of its motor policyholders fall by more than 30 per cent in two years to a mere 36,000 said: "The business is not yet seriously unprofitable, but it is very competitive. There are too many direct insurars."

Car insurance policies Top ten motor insurers by number of policies, 1994. Millions. Direct Line Sun Allience 1.10 Royal 1.06 Eagle Ster 0.88 Norwich Union 0.82 AGF 0.72 General Accident 0.63 Co-op Insurance Services 0.62 London and Edinburgh Church Source: Direct Liqu Parancial Services

Germans may fund Gartmore bid

in the UK.

commission considered about | These deals often have to be 100 mergers last year and 95 | notified to merger authorities

Pauline Springett

AMERICA'S fourth biggest banking group, Nations-Benk, yesterday announced the sale of its London stockbroker Panuare Cordon to West Merchant Bank Hold-ings, part of Germany's third largest banking group,

Crane shot . . . One of the pictures — of construction in Frankfurt — that yesterday led to Guardian photographer Denis Thorpe receiving the British Picture Editors' award for Business & Industry Photographer of the Year. His colleague Don McPhee received a Special Award

British officials are ex-

pected to argue that the case is for a change not proven. Moreover, the Government will question the ability of the

commission's Merger Task

within the tight time frame

set in the merger rules.

The hostility of some Con-

servative MPs to further

transfers of power to Brussels

could also limit the Govern-

ment's room for manoeuvre.

The commission's green paper contends that "given

the continued integration of European markets and the considerable growth in cross-

border merger activity, there are indications that a large

Brussels takeover plan irks UK

has fought for years against commission considered about giving Brussels the power to vet mergers. It relented when in 1994.

implications are eluding the 65-80 more cases falling to number of mergers that have cross-border implications fall paper ahead of its publication.

WentLB.
The deal, understood to be worth about \$20 million, immediately fuelled speculation that NationsBank could be preparing to make a full bid for UK fund manager Gart-

NationsBank has a joint venture operation with Gart-more, which is 75 per cent owned by the French bank Banque Indosuez. However, the latter has confirmed that NationsBank has first refusal on the first part of any disposal by the French bank. Analysts said NationsBank could make a full bid for Gart-

Patrick Macdougail, chief

asset management in the long term. "But those businesses are changing hands at fairly hefty prices right now," he said. Mr Macdougall added that West Merchant Bank would concentrate in the short term on organic growth

in more than one member

state, creating extra costs and

legal uncertainties for the

companies involved, the

paper adds.
The commission says its

views are supported by many

lawyers and companies

which want a "one-stop shop" for the vetting of

Since taking control over

meet with the commission's

Panmure Gordon is not a large stockbroker, and the business no longer includes fund management, which was transferred by NationsBank ture some time ago. However, the broker, which

employs about 260 staff, has a strong private client business as well as corporate clients. West Merchant Bank will have about 700 staff, most of them in London. Analysts viewed the purchase as a bid by West Merchant Bank to catch up with its rivals Deutsche Bank and Drasdner sche Bank and Dresdner Bank in the UK securities market. Panmure has a team of 30

more early next week. analysis and about 5 per cent executive of West Merchant of UK equity market turnover Bank, ruled out any bid for as an institutional firm. It Gartmore by the German plans to start a market mak-banking group, although he acknowledged that it would smaller company stocks.

SIR Rocco Forte, who last week lost control of his 60-year-old hotels and ca-

Sir Rocco gains

Granada coup

£1.2 million

solace from

tering empire to Granada, yesterday consoled himself with a £700,000 profit from the £14.9 million spending spree he launched to fight off the bid.

Sir Rocco, whose family's ing confidence.

mergers, the commission has cleared most of the 350 deals that it considered. However, 24 of the transactions had to be substantially altered to stake in Forte is valued at more than £300 million, sold 3.9 million shares he approval and four were blocked.

A spokesman for the De-partment of Trade and Indusbought just five days before Granada's bid proved suc cessful. Buying the shares at 376p

> Sir Rocco made a profit of Sir Rocco, who was chair-man and chief executive of Forte, also cashed in a num ber of share options, net-ting him a farther £494,135 — a total profit on the day of £1,235,135.

and selling them at 395p,

Sir Rocco and his advisers are continuing with plans to buy back 167 hotels previously owned by Forta. The botels, which formed

Forte's Meridien, Heritage and Exclusive chains, are valued at about £2.6 bil-lion, but Sir Rocco is expected to face stiff competition, with a host of foreign buyers — including the buyers — including the French group Accor, and American groups Sheraton and Hilton — reported to have approached Granada.

Sir Rocco received a boost last night, however, when the American Marriott chain denied approaching Granada for formal

ing Granada for formal It had been reported that Marriott had discussed pro-posals for a £1 billion asset swap, in which Granada acquired Marriott's Ameri-can catering businesses in exchange for the Meridien chain and a number of the

Forte Exclusive hotels. But a Marriott spokeswoman said it had been ap-proached by Granada before rejecting the proposals. She added: "There's nothing in discussion at this stage."

Complaints about American regulators' London activity The CFTC's direct approach to investigating complaints lodged by its own members has been dubbed "colonialism" by some mar-

Paul Murphy

MERICAN regulators are thought to be probing sus-pected price manipulation in the London copper market—
a move that is reported to
have dragged the Securities
and Investments Board, the and investments Board, the City's premier financial watchdog, into a row over regulatory jurisdiction.

Complaints were made to the SIB and the Securities and Futures Authority, the watchdog with responsibility for London's metals market, after the US Commodity Futures Trading Commission

tures Trading Commission made direct approaches to dealers in London seeking de-tails of trading positions. A CFTC spokesman con-firmed that his agency was dealing with the SIB. Both the

British regulator and the London Metal Exchange were unable to comment.

any enquiry is unknown, but metals traders noted that there have been "backwarda-tions" in the copper market recently, i.e. the market price for immediate delivery of the metal is greater than the three-month forward delivery price, creating a strong up-ward squeeze on the world

ket participants in London. Its requests for information are now said to be being

routed through British

The extent and purpose of

anthorities.

copper price.
Market experts bave draws parallels with the summer of 1998, when there were persistent suggestions that one or more participants were trying to "corner" the market and force prices up.

TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS

Belglum 44.50 Canada 2.0150 Cyprus 0.7025 Denmark 8.43 Finland 6.77

France 7.45 | Italy 2.370 | Singapore 2.10 | South Africa 5.33 | Spain 194.00 | S

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Tiger pounces as stricken Fokker takes the flak

OUTH Korea's Samsung Aerospace yes-terday became the first publicly declared suitor for ailing Dutch aircraft manufacturer, Fokker. The Dutch company con-

firmed that Samsung was one of a number of firms that had expressed interest in parts of Fokker, but declined to name other possible bidders.

There are talks going on at the moment, Samsung is one of the parties." a Fokker spokesman said yesterday. News of Samsung's interest

sent Fokker shares sharply higher on the Amsterdam bourse. They rose more than a third to 4.3 guilders (£1.72), despite analysts' warnings that they had little value.

Fokker has called key suppliers and partners to meetings tomorrow and on Thurs-day to try to calm fears over its troubled finances. Rolls-Royce, which supplies Tay engines for the F70 and F100 regional jets, will attend. Far Eastern interest in Fok-

ker was widely anticipated. after its controlling shareholder, Daimler-Benz, decided support earlier this month. Another South Korean group, least part of the company.

There has also been speculation that the Canadian group, Bombardier, might be interested in purchasing part of Fokker, despite repeated denials. Bombardier owns Belfast-based Short Brothers, where up to 1,500 jobs are under threat because of the problems at Fokker.

A Korean swoop on Fokker could help determine the shape of a £1.35 billion joint venture that China and South Korea are setting up to build a 100-seater regional jet-liner. The two countries want a Western partner, with Boeing lining up against European opposition for the third slot.

Any potential buyer is unlikely to take on the whole of Fokker, but a part-purchase by Samsung could give the South Korean group the tech-nological clout to make it the dominant force in negotiations on the proposed new jet. The Dutch aircraft group

gained breathing space last week by wimning court pro-tection from its creditors, loans and forward payments. The government cash will allow Fokker to carry on

contender to buy at five to six weeks. So far, ac-t of the company. has not affected its existing order book.

Over the weekend Daimler-Benz gave further clues about the refocusing of its aerospace strategy after its decision to abandon Fokker.

The German group, through its subsidiary Daimler-Benz Aerospace (Dasa), is now concentrating on its involvement in Airbus Industrie, where it has a 38 per cent stake, in partnership with British Aerospace, France's Aerospatiale and Spain's

According to Dasa's chief executive, Manfred Bischoff. the consortium needs to extend the Airbus range by building both larger and smaller versions, but he made it clear that he did not want the existing co-operative arrangements between BAe. Aerospatiale and Italy's Alenia (AIR), involving regional jets, to be brought within the Airbus Industrie framework.

Rolls-Royce said that the which prevents them from de-manding payment for a mini-mum of four weeks, and by persuading the Dutch govern-ment to put up £146 million in managing director of the aero-engine division, said there was no threat to jobs as



Changing direction. . . Manfred Bischoff, chief executive of Desa, now concentrating on its stake in Airbus Industrie

Tay work is associated with the Fokker jets, with the rest being on engines for the Gulf-stream IV business jet and

were committed to about 30 Fokker aircraft this year, the equivalent of 60 engines, and that aircraft were still being delivered.

Meanwhile Rolls-Royce

pliers yesterday that it would be cutting back their number as part of plans to cut costs by up to 40 per cent over the next

two to three years. Sir Ralph Robins, the chair-

to 500 in the past 10 years but the group was aiming to trim this to around 300. The move would favour big-ger suppliers who would be

and the chance to share technology in return for shoulder ing risks and helping to trim costs. The was a growing realisation in the industry that it

Persimmon beats Beazer | Stagecoach gives bus to Ideal Homes purchase drivers speedy profit

"RAFALGAR House, the group spanning shipping and construction, was at the centre of a row last night after selling its Ideal Homes subsidiary to Persimmon Homes for £170 million, despite interest from Persimmon's rival, Beazer Homes.

Beazer's chief executive. Dennis Webb, was locked in talks with advisers, poring over details of the deal which, if completed, would make York-based Persimmon Britain's fourth-largest

It is understood that Beazer will decide whether to launch a counter-offer for Ideal during the next 48 hours, but the decision is finely balanced, and will depend on the extent of undisclosed debts accumulated by Ideal.

Persimmon's deal with Traversial because Sir Chips Kes- for Ideal. wick one of its non-executive directors, is the brother of aware that the Parsimmon both busine

ICROSOFT has enlisted the help of MCI, British

Telecom's American partner,

in its bid to dominate the on-

MCI, whose aggressive and innovative marketing has

made it the second largest

long-distance carrier in the

US, has agreed to develop and market online and Internet services with Microsoft.

As part of the deal, MCI will

market Microsoft Network (MSN), the online service set

ine services industry.

Earlier this month, Bathbased Beazer was frustrated when Trafalgar entered exclusaid it would have welcomed the opportunity to negotiate with Trafalgar itself.

having made a formal offer for Ideal, it is thought that the company had proposed paying Trafalgar about £160 million, some £4 million more than Persimmon were originally expected to pay.

It is believed that Redrow,

bidding for Ideal.

way. Beazer is thought to have lobbied several signifi-cant institutional shareholders about making a rival offer

BT's American partner joins Microsoft in attempt to dominate online services

MCI will act as a carrier for

the service and sell a custom-ised version called MSN from

MCI, offering customers access to MSN and the Internet.
The US telecoms group has agreed to use its telemarketing, direct mail and advertis-

ing facilities to sell its cus-tomised version of MSN and other Microsoft software.

Analysts said the deal threatened the software dis-

tribution middlemen. Mark

Bruneau, of consultants Cobs-Mid, said the deal would revo-

tup by Microsoft to challenge lutionise the cost structure ness development manager industry leaders such as CompuServe and America Onness and set the scene for the Line. MSN, launched at the distribution of "applets", its end of February.

Trafalgar chairman Simon | deal will help to reduce Tra-Keswick. | falgar's debt mountain, which was last month put at £229 million, two-thirds of its market value. It would also mark a deper-

ture from a sector Trafalgar has been involved with since the early 1960s. Then it bought Bridge Walker, the small Brixton-based house-Although Beazer denies builder run by Victor, later Lord, Matthews, the late entrepreneur who guided the group through its glory days Meanwhile, Persimmon chairman Duncan Davidson

the highly acquisitive house-builder based in the North-west, was also interested in said yesterday that the group would close six regional head offices following the deal, at the cost of an undisclosed The sale must be approved number of jobs. Persimmon is by Trafalgar's shareholders, also launching a £91 million who may not be pleased to see rights issue, its fourth cash it being completed in this call in ten years, to help finance the deal.

But Mr Davidson defended both moves, saying "Ideal is an excellent fit for Persimmon. We are looking forward But shareholders will be to combining the strengths of

same time as Windows 95 last | small parts of software pro-year, already has more than | grams that can be download-500,000 subscribers | ed for a few cents, last a day

and then expire. BT, which owns 20 per cent

of MCL is one of the major carriers of MSN in Europe and helps distribute it in the

Far East. The telecoms group

is planning to launch its own mass-market Internet service

in the near future and has

had talks with Microsoft

the content providers.

AT&T, the largest US long

distance carrier, is also rushing to offer an Internet service. Patrick Scherrer, busi-

which could become one of

ANCHESTER bus drivers who snapped up a stake in their company when it was priva-tised less than two years ago were last night celebrating windfalls of around £10,000

The drivers, who work for Greater Manchester Buses South, chipped in £12.7 million when the company was auctioned for £25 million, with bankers and venture capitalists providing the hal-

But yesterday the company was bought by Stagecoach, the fast-expanding transport operator, for £40.7 million. Under the deal, about 2,000 drivers, fitters, electricians average of 1,000 shares each at £1 a time, will sell them to

Stagecoach for £10 each.
"The vast majority of the workers who bought shares were bus drivers, but the gains will be across the whole

Micholas Barmister

IRECTORS of Severe

been warned that they must use all resources nec-

Trent Water have

essary to prevent a repeat of last year's supply prob-lems, no matter how harsh

the weather conditions. Clive Wilkinson, chair-

man of Ofwat's central con-

sumer services committee has written to Brian Duck-

worth, STW's managing di-rector, welcoming the com-pany's plan to spend about £130 million on improve-ments but expressing con-cern about the outcome.

The regulator acknowl-

workforce," said commercial director Ross Griffiths. "And on the board there are three worker directors, two managers, two venture capitalists and an independent — there

are no fat cats here." Mr Griffiths said the board had decided that the sale, which is expected to be approved by workers at an exraordinary general meeting



Water company warned

rain or a crystal ball to

forecast rainfall. But he said the company was ex-

pected to plan for the worst scenario in terms of rain-

fall and increased demand.

He added that responsi-bility for ensuring custom-ers received the full water

and sewerage service lay with the board.

• Bill Fraser, the Scotsman

whose £217,000 pay-and-pensions package as man-

aging director of South

West Water caused outrage among consumers last sum-

mer, is to leave company next month as part of a boardroom shake-up.

The company last night

Stock market value £7.4be

Strare price \$567a A \$1 %

next month, was the best way for the business to continue

string of acquisitions by Perth-based Stagecoach, which last month announced its first foray into rail privati-sation, winning the franchise for South West Trains.

Stagecoach has bought about 15 bus companies since it was floated in 1993, recently snapping up two in Devon and Cambridgeshire. Announcing the deal, chair-man Brian Souter said: "T-am

delighted that we have reached agreement to acquire the company, which demonstrates our continuing com-mitment to the UK bus

But Labour transport spokesman Graham Allen said: "These are assets built up by the public over many years which have been sold at rip-off prices, and which are now making a fortune for

short-term owners." Stagecoach shares closed up 18p at 360p on the news.

was quitting after being passed over for the job of

chief executive being cre-

ated in response to the Greenbury report. South West Water, which

has faced adverse publicity

over the past year because of poor water quality and

tive.

SWW said it had agreed

to Mr Fraser, managing di-rector of the core water ser-

vice business, leaving the

organisation at the end of February. He will provide consultancy services for

the next 12 months.

Main activity:

88% owned by French

chemical group

Pharmaceutical company

Sumitomo snaps up **Daiwa US assets**

JAPANESE bank Sumitomo has finalised the acquisition of most US assets and operations of its smaller rival, Daiwa, which was hit by scandal last year when it lost £700 million on the US bond markets. Sumitomo quickly stepped in by indicating that it would be willing to hire some of Daiwa's US staff and purchase some of its US assets.

The deal, signed on Friday, means that Sumitomo will acquire the assets and operations of Daiwa Bank's Commercial Banking Division, the loans of Daiwa Bank Trust Company, and Daiwa Bank's New York branch. Osaka-based Sumitomo is the world's fourth largest bank. — Pauline Springett

UCI in 1,000-job expansion

UNITED Cinema International's planned £100 million expansion, part of its campaign to remain the biggest multiplex cinema chain in the UK, is expected to create about 1,000 jobs. It will open a cinema complex in Dublin in December and five other sites - at . Cardiff Bay, Leeds, Manchester and two in London - by the end

Each complex has between nine and 12 screens and a seating capacity of up to 3,500. UCI said it is exploring possible developments in 10 other locations. Managing director Steve Knibbs said: Despite tough competition, we have no intention of handing over our pole position in the cinema exhibition market.

A No. 11 spokeswoman said

CHANCELLOR Kenneth Clarke cemented relations between Numbers 10 and 11 Downing Street yesterday and chose a former member of the prime minister's policy unit as his new press secretary. Jill Rutter, 39, was at the policy unit from 1992 to 1994. She moves to her new job after heading the Treasury's Developing Countries, Debt and Export Finance team. She takes over from Andrew Hudson, press secretary since 1992. — Larry Elliott

Another brick in the wall

HANSON'S brick subsidiary has acquired a controlling interes HANSON'S brick subsidiary has acquired a controlling interest in a Belgian brick company. Hanson Brick has agreed to buy 50.1 per cent of Desimpel, and will make an offer for the rest of the shares on the Brussels stock exchange. The price of £61.82 per share values the company at £125 million. It also has £70 million of debt. Desimpel made £17 million profit in the first nine months of the year. Hanson chief executive Derek Bonham said: "This acquisition fits perfectly into our strategy." - Roser Coupe

grieid (A

Camping group shares fall drought orders, said it was conducting "a broad search" for a chief execu-

MORE than £7 million was wiped off Eurocamp's value yesterday after a warning by the holidays group that camping bookings for the year were down 20 per cent sent shares tumbling a per cent to 230p. Tom Neville, the chairman, blamed the general weakness in demand for 1996 overseas summer holidays. He hoped bookings would improve and reported an upturn since the turn of the year. The group has saved money by reducing site operation costs and cutting both permanent and seasonal staff. Profits for the year to October 31 rose from £8.7 million to £9.3 million due to a contribution from Superbreak. — Torp May

Enlarged RPR foresees lean times for its staff

OUTLOOK/Drugs group that yearned for | growth is to reduce workforce by 10pc and sell assets. Roger Cowe reports

RANCO-American drugs | the spokesman said. "Our two company Rhône-Poulenc | large sites, at Dagenham and Rorer, which acquired what was left of Fisons for £1.8 billion last October, warned yesterday that it expects to cut 10 per cent of the group workforce over the next two years and sell a large chunk of assets.

The company last night refused to indicate where the jobs are would fall. A spokesman said 1,600 jobs would go this year, with a further 1.300 in 1997, and repeated RPR's warning at the time of the takeover that most of the overlap with Fisons would be in the UK and US. So far the only announcement has been last week's news that 140 marketing jobs will be cut in Bastbourne and Loughborough. More announcements are expected within weeks, but RPR said there would not be

large sites, at Dagenham and Holmes Chapel, will remain." Some of the jobs will go in piecemeal sales of busine which are expected to reap \$750 million (£500 million) over the next 18 months. Most of these sales have already been identified Benefits from the acquisi-

tion are expected to save RPR \$200 million a year beginning in 1997. But integrating Fisons will cost the company \$160 million, more than \$100 million of which was charged against last year's profits, so that earnings per share were the same as the previous year. Sales grew strongly, however, up more than 10 per cent even before the addition of Fisons and other acquisitions. This is industry consolida-

tion in action, in an industry where consolidation is taken

it is one of the largest in most leading markets. That was the logic behind the merger of Rorer and Rhône-Poulenc's drugs businesses in 1990. The merger gave the French chemicals group a presence in the US, which is the largest drugs market. But it still left the company well down the league table. Even after the Fisons acquisition, RPR is still outside the top 10 in the dobal drugs league.

F BEING number two was not good enough for Glaxo, it is difficult to see how a company like RPR can hope to succeed. One answer is that Glaxo had particular prob-lems, because of the immi-nent loss of patent protection on Zantac. Another might be that you can do well, no matter how small you are, by con-

centrating on key areas.

RPR seems to believe in the latter approach, although the company has managed to narrow its focus only as far as wholesale closures.

"We are not looking for a wholesale slash and burn," and has proceeded apace.

where consolidation is taken five therapeutic areas: several newly approved products. Now is the time to grow purchase has shot it to the top their sales.

RPR is a classic case, illustrating the belief that a drug thrombosis, anti-infectives company can only succeed if and cancer treatment.

building up, not just in the charges for absorbing Fisons. One cost is an estimated \$25 million as part of the French government's answer to dealing with the country's stantially, the group spent \$766 million last year on research and development. That was 15 per cent of sales and 26 per cent up on the pre-

vious year. Michel de Rosen, chairman and chief executive, described this as "choosing to invest in future products". But he said that, as part of the new aus-terity, R&D spending would not be allowed to increase faster than sales. Mr de Rosen described the

change in stance at the company as moving from hunting to farming. While most of the farming seems to be of the reeping variety at Fisons, the analogy applies to new drugs as well as new subsidiaries. RPR has recently spewed out

Rhône-Poulenc Rorer

edged that the company did | refused to comment on sugnot have the power to make | gestions that Mr Fraser

Rhône-Poulenc. Aquired Fisons last year Interest cover X colonie £m

Sales (\$m) Operating profit (\$m) 4,019

Ascot Spanish property sold

ASCOT Holdings, the debt-burdened property and leisure company, has raised £41 million from the sale of its ten Spanish hotels and holiday clubs to a subsidiary of Riu, a hotel group in Spain.

Ascot said the terms represented a premium of £9.4 million, before expenses, to the book value of £32.1 million. Its net borrowings will drop from £302.1 million, as at September 30 1992, to about £5 million immediately following the disposal. The board will then be free to focus on seeking suitable acquisitions.

The Spanish properties — four hotels, four holiday clubs and The Spanish properties —four hotels, four boliday clubs and two holiday apartment complexes — produced a profit of 27 million in the six months to September 30, a rise of 23 per cent. —

Paying for the labels

contribution from Superbreak — Tony May

SALES of private label groceries across Europe have leaged ahead of branded products over the past five years, according to research by Euromonitor published yesterday. Total retail sales have grown by 3.4 per cent per amoun since 1990, but sales of private label products soared by an average 7.5 per cent a year. Germany leads in total private label sales but the UK has the highest proportion at 42 per cent of grocery sales — up from 36 per cent in 1990. Switzerland comes second with 37 per cent private label. Italy had the highest loyality to brands. — Roger Cous

Receivers move in at LEP

RECEIVERS have been appointed to LEP Group, the debt-laden former parent of the global freight forwarder LEP International. LEP International has been sold to its management for a down payment of £1 and its global sales and marketing director Larry Woelk said the consortium of banks which owned LEP Group had been promised payment of £5 million over the next five years. He added that his company was pleased to be released from LEP Group's £134 million debt burden, which it had been servicing. Coopers & Lybrand insolvency partner lan Bond said a further 25 million could be collected in the form of profits, deferred considerations and property for the benefit of LEP Group's bankers. — Tony May



dian January 30 1966

The Little

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US assets

200

O'Donnell throws it all away

Mark Tran in Phoenix

HE Pittsburgh quarterback Nell O'Donnell went into Sunday's Super
Bowl XXX boasting
the league's safest pair of
hands, the man who has
thrown the lowest percentage
of interceptions in NFL history. Today he would gladly trade in that statistic for something really meaningful, such as a Super Bowl ring.

For, in the most competitive finale since the New York Giants beat the Buffalo Bills five years ago, the less than invincible Cowboys scraped through 27-17 — with two ter-rible mistakes by O'Donnell making the difference.

Devil Stadium, perched on a | victory and the Most Valu- | like his ultra-smooth predehilltop in the Arizona desert, given little realistic chance of winning. But after a shaky start the Steelers mounted a surprisingly stiff challenge to the sauntering Cowboys.

The underdogs' defence played guerably to contain

played superbly to contain Emmitt Smith, who finished with only 49 yards, while O'Donnell, wildly off-key for most of the first half, eventually found his range with the help of some acrobatic catching from his receivers. But, to the dismay of a

mostly pro-Pittsburgh crowd twirling yellow towels, the Steelers delivered the game to the Cowboys courtesy of those errant passes. Both were caught by the cornerback Larry Brown and in effect they clinched both the

able Player award for Brown an accolade usually bestowed on an offensive player. The cocky Cowboys, some

of whom had turned up for practice in limos, sounded more relieved than rampant at the end, Deion Sanders, the millionaire cornerback for the Cowboys, sporting a black hat with a delicate red feather, said; "I'm so happy I could float back to the hotel. The fat lady has sung and she's riding in the limo on the way back."

for the much maligned Dal-

up when it's all over."
"You don't always get there the way you plan to," he added. "Sometimes there are detours, but we did arrive." The game began with the Cowboys looking as if they would indeed scorch the Steelers, scoring on their first three possessions. The first drive, featuring a 20-yard reception by Irvin and a 23-yard burst by Smith, ended with a 43-yard field goal from Chris Boniol.

cessor Jimmy Johnson.
Described as a "bozo" by

the New York Post after his notorious fourth-and-one call

to run the ball which cost the match against the Philadel-

The coach, who has spent

two seasons under the closest scrutiny as Johnson's

The second Cowboys series was just as efficient and ef-fortless, culminating in a three-yard TD pass from Troy Alkman to the tight end Jay Novacek. A second Boniol field goal came from another lengthy drive to give the Cow-boys a 13-6 lead.

The Steelers rallied just be-fore the half. Despite a couple of sacks O'Donnell marched the Steelers from midfield into the Dallas end-zone. O'Donnell proved his mettle by completing two long passes on third down and rounded it off with a six-yard TD pass to Yancey Thigpen.

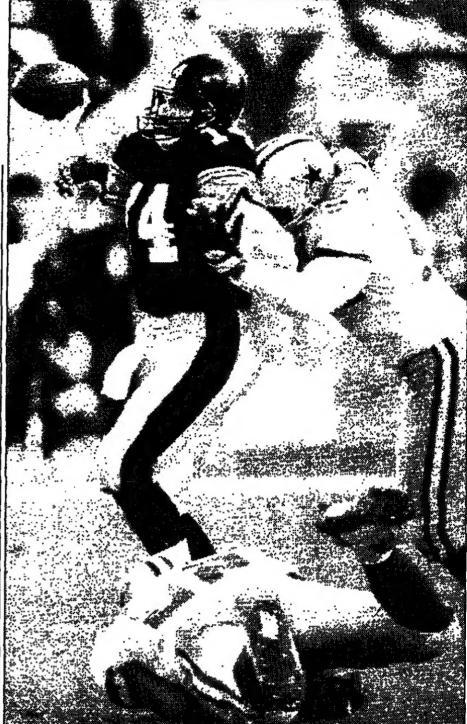
After Diana Ross was whisked off by helicopter to bring down the curtain on the half-time extravaganza, the Steelers went back to work. But just as they threatened to take control, O'Donnell threw his first interception. No Steeler was anywhere near the ball when it ended in Brown's hands.
"I lost the ball, it just

phia Eagles in December.
Switzer has now won a chunk
of credibility for pursing the
Cowboys through a difficult
season to their third Super slipped out of my hand," O'Donnell admitted later. Two plays later Smith went over for a one-yard TD. Bowl in four years.
The MVP winner Brown had special praise for him.
"I'm especially happy for coach Switzer," he said. "We owe this to the man." But the Steelers refused to lie down and die, pulling back to 20-10 with a 46-yard field goal from Norm Johnson early in the fourth quarter.

replacement, was his usual undaunted self. "I just reload when I stumble," Switzer said. "You just keep doing what you believe in and add it On the kick-off the Steelers stunned the Cowboys with an onside kick, normally a des-perate resort reserved for late in the game. It worked to perfection as the Steelers recov-ered the ball at midfield and followed up with a masterful drive that had the Cowboys reeling. Bam Morris made couple of explosive runs and then strolled in untouched for the one-yard TD. Dallas' lead

was cut to 20-17 and Pitts-burgh had taken charge. When Aikman was sacked on the next Dallas series, it looked as if the Steelers would surely end the American Conference's 11-year Super Bowl drought. With just over four minutes left, the Steelers had the ball at their 32 with plenty of time to send the game into overtime with a field goal or get a win-

ning TD.
On the first play Andre
Hastings dropped an easy
pass. O'Donnell's next pass
flew straight to Brown, who scampered 33 yards until run out of bounds at the Pitts-burgh six: a few plays later Smith got his second TD and it was all but all over. Just to make sure, O'Donnell threw a third interception in the final seconds.



Sad sack . . . the hapless O'Donnell is collared by Dallas's defensive tackle Hennings

Pharanear goes for weekend four-timer

And Smith must score . . . Emmitt the Cowboy cashes in on O'Donnell's second blunder

category.

The six-year-old, who was originally with Aidan O'Brien, has made tremendous strides since coming here and was completing a hat-trick when storming home by 20 lengths from Angelo's Double at Warwick earlier this month.

The runner-up endorsed the Proposition on January 20. The sponsors Gold Cup, bids to win the

the runner up endorsed the form with a win at Kempton on January 20. The sponsors Gold Cup, bids to win the race ticket with a victory in on January 20. The sponsors Handicap.

Handicap.

Nicholson has acquired this could well be a stepping some very smart performers from Ireland and Pharanear

Leader for Saturday's race and time in succession, but Ladfavour Thorntonn Estate this could well be a stepping brokes make Master Cats the stone for a tilt at the Coral 2-1 favourite, followed by 3-1

Jodami, 7-2 Monsieur Le three weeks ago China Castle

Leader for Saturday's race and time in succession, but Ladfavour Thorntonn Estate (3.10).

Seven furlongs at Southwell recently.

Jodami, 7-2 Monsieur Le three weeks ago China Castle

000-12 SOVEREIGH PRINCE (39 (C) N Callegher 8-3 100- Nickel R US (110) J Scargur 7-10 108-0 LORD ELLANCOWAN (19) R Ingram 7-10 5000-0 Taktan EURORisis (21) B Petros 7-10

FORM GATHER - CHIEFA CASTLE Sh and plonty to do entoring straight, ran on stringly to lead close from and bi Triestee Magic by 19 (Wolverhampton Tegli, Std)
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Distribute Testaut'y 2 data-on two or though an impression on wyser from over 10 ont, 2nd oil 4, btn 191, in
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TOP POPUL YIPS: Thereteen Botate S, China Cuello 7, Distinct Security S

1905: Higel's Lad 2 9 7 J Wenner 7-4 (P Hashmi) 9 cm

certainly falls into that With One Man, the Gold | Cure. Flashing Steel, at 9-2, is | beat Thorntoun Gate by two regarded Ireland's best and a haif lengths but John

> years.
> At Lingfield this afternoon, Thorntoun Estate looks worthy of the nap in the Carole Blackburn Handicap.
>
> sand shuffle on Ron Boss's Flirty Gertie (3.40) in the Hanson Limited Stakes.

Mark Johnston's threeyear-old is opposed by the in-form China Castle, who has won three times this month, but the weights certainly

chance of winning the prize, ston's gelding now has a 14ib which has gone to English pull in the weights and he challengers for the past six should reverse the placings. Frankie Dettori, refreshed from a holiday, returns for a

> It is the champion jockey's only ride of the day and it should be a winning one as Flirty Gertie won with plenty



Nicholson . . . strong hand

busy with winners on the allweather tracks and he should make a bright start with Jason Weaver has kept Hever Golf Star (1.40).

3.20 Wild Rose Of York

3.50 Merry Hote

Dato Star prepares for Champion with away day on the all-weather

DATO STAR, a Champion in the November Handicap at Doncaster.

Make his hurdling debut at Jefferson has ruled out after undergoing a raceyesterday, writes Ken Oliver. Malcolm Jefferson's gelding, who is 20-1 for the Cheltenham race, covered one mile, six furlones of the all-weather track in the

Michael Newton.

"He just needed a day away from home and that will have cheered him up." said Jefferson.

Wetherby on Saturday the possibility of taking the easier Cheltenham option course gallop at Southwell | and going for the Supreme Novices' Hurdle. "You can take it that he will be going for the Champion Hurdle as long as he's okay. The heavier the ground the bet-ter for him," he said.

hands of stable apprentice Plumpton was frozen off yesterday as is Nottingham today and Leicester tomorrow. Ayr went ahead yes-terday after two inspec-tions, but many trainers Dato Star, who won the Expressed concern about the state of the going, withtenham last March, has not drawing 36 of the 77 schedrun since finishing second | uled runners.

Lingfield (All-weather Flat) with form

2.10 Mr Neverpland 3.40 Firty Gertie 2.40 Diego Draws Low mambers feverand, + Desotes bilaters, Geing: Standard, Figures in brackets after horse's name desote days since latest eating 1.40 LAMBAS HANDICAP SE CEASE 1 1050-0 SPENDER (21) (CO) P Hurris 7-10-0
2 305-40 RIMMAN'S USHER (10) (D) C Marriy 4-9-12
3 10152-4 RIMMA GOLF STAR (75) (D) T Margine 4-9-10
4 10051-1 SEPER ROCKY (21) (CD) R Basiman 7-9-4
5 50116- HALF TONE (43) (CD) R RockY 4-1
6 102-02 DISTART DYNASTY (G) (CD) B Rock 6-8-10
7 400-602 SEPERA O (BEL) (10) (D) J Bridge 4-7-13 7 remners TOP FORM TIPO: Hover Gelf Star S, Super Beeley 7 Pattings 3-1 Hast Tores, 4-1 Specier, Herer Golf Star, 8-2 Seper Rodey, 6-1 Disjant Dynasty, 8-1 Haste United, 16-1 Superito. 1995: Spender & # 6 J Stank 7-4: IP Stante) T com FORM CUTTES - SPENETHER Lad over 31 to 11 until over 11 to 1, notes weakaned when 7th, his 1755, to Char was HANDLAN'S USHER (or 180 % sheat), no beadway shall SI (Lingheld SI, Sio). MANDLAN'S USHER: Chared leaders, notion over 11 out, one pace when 7th, but 41, to 48 to 48 to 1 Ski). MENER COLF STRIK: Led, ridden over 11 oct, caught closes home when 2nd, bis 12, to Brandstaire Sea offmell St., Safe. MER ROCKY: Maid up, ridden and hautiney over 11 cst, storig run traide final f when by Chedwell Ha Wolverhampson St. Std). 2.10 DOG CANT CLARITIC STAKES IN CLASS 8 returners
TOP FORM TIPE: Symmen's Revenge 6, Nr Herozalad 7, Danishy Lawyer 6
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- - Revenue 1 maser 7-3 kir Neversing, 5-1 W Bettings 11-4 Spencer's Rewage, 3-1 Dancing Lawyer, 7-2 Mr Mevertaind, 5-1 What A Nightmare.

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Clingfold Intit. Std. DEBECO Confident drives out, stayled on well fined furtions, 4th of 9, 6th ISO. In PlyStoner (Laborator Im 2), pr. LOVE BRID: Flocken over 4f out, one pace, 3rd on 12, bit about 8, to Well Driven (Lingfold Im, Std). 3. 1 O CAROLE BLACKBURH HAMDICAP SYO IM 2f CAAC? 1 000-111 CHESIA CASTLE (8) (3th on) (CDS P Hambid 9-12	with 7	TANTYARD	ij, behind Sool St. a	further see peach in 1990 (Linguist 10th, 540).	at Con.
1 - 000-111 (SMIA CASTLE (8) (5D ex) (CD) P Nobel 9-12	LOVE	Seld 1mt), Or Outples BURD: No	hd). I three cut, dlayed o den owit 41 sut, cos	o well finel furiong, 4th of page, 3rd of 12, bits also	S, isto 1592, to Physiquer (L. of St., to West Drawn (L.)	elementer 1m 21, co
3 (60-12 Deprime) separate (a) (40) is administration of 10	3.7					I Shahara Y
3 (60-12 Deprime) separate (a) (40) is administration of 10	1	- 000-111	CHERY CYELLE ((20) (20) ex) (CO) P (400)	9-12	
3 (SIGN-A THOSE TOUR EXPART (\$1) (\$3) M Johann 5-10 Billionen 1-4	2	608-12	DESCRIPTION OF STREET	Ut (s) (cts) & c.cover	94	2+
THE COUNTY OF MANY COOK OF WHITE SEE STATE OF THE PARTY O						2 H-F 1
0 000- FLASKIL (35) R Hannon 8-6	3					
	3 4					

DOME LINE SHARE SH	1955. (St.) Silver Polisiciti: Headway over 10 ost, strong run to lead inside final half mile, overy chance no extra inside final half mile, overy chance no extra inside final half mile, overy chance no extra inside final y (Nohwrisampton in 100yds, Sid). AMMODIWAIS. Alterys behind, lith of 12, 12n shout 50, to Wed Durw the Sone behind, lith of 12, 12n shout 50, to Wed Durw the Sone behind, lith of 12, 12n shout 50, to Wed Durw the Sone Sone Sone Sone Sone Sone Sone Son	karleng, 3rti of 10, irin 23, i heritarkat 7t, Gd-Friji. n (Lingilleid 1m, Skf). Agazarda Senteltra (6) 3rt A Clark 8 G Adamanus (3) J Wannier (3) 1 J Francis (3) 1 J Francis (3) 1 J Francis (3) 1 J Francis (4) 1 J Francis (4) 1
Balla's Riches R Lordo R Lordo R Lordo R 2 1 2 1 2 1 3 4 4 6 7 6 8 4 10 ruma (100 Postis Sp 14 Music (100 Postis Sp 14 Music (AN Nobrestampine im 100yds, Sad. Mith Soon behold, get of 25 finances, bin about 30, to Committee Na Landscownia Absoys behind, life of 12, tan about 30, to Wed Durw Landscownia Absoys behind, life of 12, tan about 30, to Wed Durw Landscownia Absoys behind, life of 12, tan about 30, to Wed Durw Landscownia Absoys to 12, 1200 P Evans 5-9-13 17-20-20 CRYSTAL MEDGETTS (10) (C3) D Fives 5-9-13 17-20-20 CRYSTAL MEDGETTS (10) (C3) D Rock 5-9-13 17-20-20 CRYSTAL MEDGETTS (10) (C3) D Rock 5-9-10 17-20-20 CRYSTAL MEDGETTS (12) (C3) CRYSTAL CRYSTAL 8-9-10 17-20-20 CRYSTAL MEDGETTS (12) (C3) CRYSTAL 8-9-10 17-20-20 CRYSTAL MEDGETTS (12) (C3) CRYSTAL 8-9-10 17-20-20 MEMILARAS (C3) M Polytics 4-8-7 18-20-1 FLETTY CROTTE (11) (D9) R Book 4-8-5 18-20-1 FLETTY CROTTE (11) (D9) R Book 4-8-5 18-20-1 FLETTY CROTTE (11) (D9) R Book 4-8-5 18-20-1 FLETTY CROTTE (13) (D9) R Book 4-8-7	Agazanda (3) 3-4 Agazanda (3) 3-4 A Clark 8 A Clark 8 A Wanster 8 A Parameter (3) 4 A Sproven (3) 1
SCARO SILORO SIL	URS Soon behod, last of 25 features, his about 30, to Committee the LANGOWARIA Always behind, lim of 12, bits about 30, to Weel Durw LANGOWARIA Always behind, lim of 12, bits about 30, to Weel Durw III ALMESOM LURSTING STAICES TY C2,000 III -040 FOUND OF STAICES (16) (C3) P Drains 5-9-13 II -050 GEYSTAL MICROSTIS (14) (C3) (D) R O'Sultivan 8-9-10 III -050 GEYSTAL MICROSTIS (14) (C3) (D) R O'Sultivan 8-9-10 III -050 HANNAM STOCKE (14) (C3) (C3) C HIN 6-9-10 III -050 HANNAM STOCKE (14) (C3) (C3) C HIN 6-9-10 III -050 HANNAM STOCKE (14) (C3) C HIN 6-9-10 III -050 HANNAM CHARLES (15) II Projected 6-9-7 III -050 HANNAM CHARLES (15) II Projected 6-9-7 III -050 HANNAM CHARLES (15) II Projected 6-9-7 III -050 HANNAM (C4) (C3) C Projected 6-9-7 III -050 HANNAM (C4) (C3) C Projected 6-9-8-8 III THE HANNAM (C5) (C3) E Projected 6-9-8-8 III THE HANNAM CANAM (C5) (C3) E Projected 6-9-8-8 III THE HANNAM CANAM (C5) (C3) E Projected 7-9-8-8-8 III THE HANNAM CANAM (C5) (C3) E Projected 7-9-8-8-8-8 III THE HANNAM CONTRACTOR (C5) (C5) E Projected 6-9-8-8-8-8-8-8-8-8-8-8-8-8-8-8-8-8-8-8-	Amanda Senders (5) 9% A Clark Contact A Clark A Clark Contact A Clark
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Initiage 1 I-1 Marie TURNI GO TO Paide TAWAN 1 Rd).		
I-1 Music Purse Qu to Paide LAWAN 1 Ref.		
to Paide LAWAN S	Militarid, 10-1 Annal Boy.	ar comment sylven under
KAWAS :	NOTE - POUR OF SPACETS Charmi leaders, had over 14 put, builded in	with last, no term, 15 Znd o
MARIA.	(Lingteid 71, Ski).	d of the facility of trade to
	PTOPING Hendway 2f out, every classes little last, no extra, 122 2m	an se së strikas (mudirese)
	MELLFIELD: Never mearer, 51 feb of 13 to Random (Lingdold 64, Su)	
MEAL IN	DVs Mid-division, no impression from over 11 aut, 135 22nd of 28 to 1	
d-Stu		
SECOND !	STELLETHING Alony's promisent, risibut 1400 furlangs out, no exte	t, Sed of 15, juin 150, to Duk
	g inglisid 71, Stój. Sk Close up, 60 strught, weekened trasi 14, 16 9th of 12 to Field of 1	Taion distributements trol
Detil Detel		
LISTY	guittiff: Promisent, led over 21 out, mayed on strongly to bi Square (heal by \$1 (Southered) 71, Std.
1.10	PHARTON HANDICAP OF CR,541	
1 0	PRIMATION HARDESCAP OF CLUBAY SES-30 PATSY CRIMENTS (10) (5) (D) J Moore 6-10-0 (D-COC TAPANHUS (1) (CD) M Poligiage 4-9-11 SES-00 WALLEACK FAMENTS (2) B Machine 4-9-7 265-01 BANDOSH (12) (CD) C Jurine 5-9-7 265-01 BANDOSH (12) (CD) C Jurine 5-9-7	P P Murphy (6) :
2 6	50-000 TAFAHRUS (1) (CD) M Polglage 4-9-11	M Festes 14
3 00	FOR THE THE PARTY OF THE PARTY CAN AND THE PARTY OF THE P	C Station 10
5 9	MAJO BOCKCHACKER (12) (II) G Marchine 4-0-5	A Clark 7
	20-22 DAHITAN (7) (D) GL Moore 5-8-5	
7 5	63-01 MARCHARCK F ASSESS (21) 8 MARCHARCK F ASSESS (21) 8 MARCHARCK F ASSESS (21) 8 MARCHARCK F ASSESS (22) 8 MARCHARCK F (23) (25) 8 Marchard 4-5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	T Ashley (7) 9
. 0	(044-0 ANYTHINE CARY (20) (C) P Depon 4-5-17	J 7 Spm 4
10 0	NO-43 RESPONSION BUTTO (12) & MCAMPING	D Bloom 87
0 10000	Mariff order I total transmiss fish to the first of the state of the s	
	TWT: Herrington Butts S, Dublyah T, Awatka S	
	and Heights 7 & 13 S Makery 19-4 (N O'Sufficien) 16 rays	
ettlem?	& Dehiven, 9-2 Newlegion Botts, 6-1 Passy Grimes, Random, Awards	i, 8-1 Strayson Domeio, 18-
ocherach	w, 12-1 Willrack Ferner.	
OPER CU	MME - TAIFAMHOUS: Unplected at Southwell yesterday, previously to	an destri moltrodo su cest' aque
eskened,		cross, fro M by King Denni
	de sen en 3 to cologii en ren cargo perioporo - no, selli. La con test midden anni clare entre con include qui bestino ricche i	man of a set and a set
(CLEAN)	i Soon lad, ridden and plear over one turiong out, beating those i	
ockeracio OPBI CIU ORKONICI, ANTYAIN	y, 13-1 Williast Ferror. graf - TAICANHEIS: Unpleased at Southwell yesterday, previously to 30 last at 9 to Goose of All Birds (Lingifold 1m, Spi).	ed until handed at out, som

Std).

RANDOWN in rear, hapelway 31 ces, had near finish, been Fort Kacz by a cests, with NEWWATTON BUTT'S (gave 1926), lest, haseled class home, nech swary third, PDC/KCRACKER (gave 192), always behind, a further of track in 126, 13 ray (Legislat 6, Sar).

AWARSHAR Crassed whater, redoop over 11 cest, anable to quicken, 25 ard of 16 to Altra (Southwell 6, Sat).

ANATTHEE ARATT'S Soon adepacted and irealing, 16; 11th of 13 to Stantow Jury (Wolverhamplon 6, Sat).

SHAYNES DOMARIN Held on, stayed on well, 3th of 11, bin 5, to Lochon (Lingfield R, Sat).

 Blinkered today for the first time — MUSSELBURGH: 1.50 Live And Let Live; 2.50 Puritan; 3.50 Sand King, LINGFIELD;

1.	20 LOGANISA WONGERF MANDAR 2010 E2,870	
1	***	1
•	22-15 GARRIAGO (14) D Noins 5-11-5 N Supple USEN JARAROOT (14) D Noins 5-11-5 L Wyer PO LOCK GARRIAG (383) F Murphy 5-17-5 P Carbony 68 SISTER CASSIAL (6) W Road 7-11-5 S Storey MODEAL F Water 5-11-5 S Storey	l
:	6R SEISTER CASHAL (6) W Road 7-11-5 B Storey BIODFAJI F Watson 5-11-5 A Thornton	١,
	1806060 MY HANDY MAN (6) Fl Alian 5-11-5	
í	64 UNEPTERFUSION (18) M Hammond 5-11-5 Mr C Benniter (2) PP WILD BROOK (20) Mrs S Brangti 6-11-6 Berlus	
10	00P-005 CLOVER COL. (6) 8 Ellipon 5-17-0	Ti.
11	165 FRENCH PROJECT (104) (D) Mrs S Bradourie 4-10-6 A Wett (7)	11
12=	The state of the s	Be
TOP.	FORM TANK Ameliak The Hobel S, Osmena Consul 7, Unprejudice 6 is Thornton Callo 6 17 12 L Wyer 3-1 (IR 1) Hauterby) 10 mm	50
Betti	set 5-2 Queens Consul. 4-1 Unitropolico. Eurobrit. The Robel. 6-1 Princess Marries R-1 Franch	•
T I I	a, n-1 clever on, noony.	fc
1.4	50 DALKEITH HOWCEP CHASE 2m C2,800	W
1	43-64-U ANOTHER VENTERER (46) F Murphy 6-11-3 P Corborry 643-F35 DARK MIDIOGRAF (18) D Lamb 7-11-3 A Memory (7)	Ţ
1	160-25 EUROTWIST (20) (NP) 8 Kntjeppil 7-11-3	
3	513-044 GALLARDON (10) B Rothwell 7-11-3	
;	33-344 CALLIVE AND LET THE 643) Miss L. Russell 72-11-3	
7 100	MET,	
rop i	FORM TIPS: Paglicosh 8, Quiterfield 7	A
-	When there 6 11 10 J. Callingham 4-7 (0. M. Moura), 11 van. 19r 2-1 Paghactio, 3-7 Gallardial, 4-1 Eurobest, 9-2 Explore Manshal, 19-1 Anomer Vaniuse, 14-5- labingts, 16-1 Lird And Let Leri	Ci
_		CH WE DO BE GO SO
2.5	2O HARPERING HANDICAP HURDLE Sin CO. 228	Ba
1	22111 BLASTER OF THE BOOK (43) (CD) Maches 7-11-16	Go
	CZS14 ARLE PLAYER (17) (C) (C) the S Bearing 9-11-0	2.
6	5260-84 THE LAUGHORIQ LOND (41) Miss 1. Rubsell 10-10-7 A Thermion	DO:
	10-3355 QUERNAN LEGISMO (285) (D) D (287) 5-10-5	To
IOP I	ORBITTPS: Master Of The Reck S, Able Player 7	E16
	Throughotte 6 11 11 P Streen 6-1 (J J O'Nelli) 9 ppm as 4-5 kinster Of The Rock, 3-1 Abie Player, 5-1 Common Lement, 10-1 Just Removes, 13-1 The	F.
Lop	gr 4-5 lepton Of The Rock, 3-1 Able Player, 5-1 Cermon Legend, 10-1 Just Supposes, 13-1 The leg Lord, 16-1 Topkarmer.	2
2.5	O KLIMARY CUP HANDICAP CHASE 2m 47 CS,625	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
1	123174 HOUGHTON (96) (III) (RF) J Howard Johnson 10-12-0	CS
â	9-353U WAIT YOU THERE (18) (D) H Alexander 17-11-0 Mr S Sedens	Ru 2,4
•	5260-54 THE LAUGHING LOND (41) (D) Miss I, RIVER 10-11-0 DOUBTFUL F-0453U RAPID NOVIER (18) (C) D Notes 9-10-8	FU
_	123124 HOUGHTON (26) (39) (3F) J Howard, 127300 10-12-0 P Carbony 376-722 PURSTAN (16) (C3) H Tinker 7-11-7 Rises P Jesus 4* 376-323 WAIT YOU THEN (16) (C3) H Abroander 13-11-0 Mr 5 Studens 3205-34 THE LAUDORION LOND (44) (5) Wises L HURSH 10-13-0 DOUBTIPM. F-04531 PAPPO NOVEME (16) (5) Noble 3-10-8 DOUBTIPM. 224311 CHARRING GALE (16) (C3) Wire S Braddwine 5-10-8 Well (7) ±	J.C
OP I	ONE TYPE Coursing Colo S, Explil Morer ?	J C
995	ONEL TERR Commany Guie S, Esphi Mover 7 Bounting School & 11 S & Sharey S-7 (C Parker) S year go S-4 Mapid Mover, S-2 Chermon Gain, 11-4 Parissa, S-2 Moughton S-1 Mari You There,	Bai
$\overline{}$		3.1
3.2	O WALLYFORD MOVICEP HAMDICAP HURBLE 200 47 52,480	10 A
2	119452 WILD BOSE OF YORK (5) (70) P Homenth 5-11-10 G Cabill (7) 50-012 BLUE CRARM (16) (50) Mrs 5 Bratborné 6-11-8 A Dobbin 515 SAYNAF DANGERI (25) Mrs A Raugherné 7-11-1 Il Foster 00-04 SHREMOT THOUGHT (41) C Parter 5-10-2 B Sterney (100 YOUNG STEVER (18) W Karop 5-10-11 S BioDobaguell 4 00-97 TREMBRURIUS (57) R Also 7-10-1 L Myger 30P/ KINFAURS DANGER (1080) Also I. RoseN 8-13-6 A Thousens	CZ
4	535 SAYRAF DARGER (25) Mrs A Naughton 7-11-1	Non Fid
	OCCO YOUNG STEVEN (18) W Kamp 5-10-11	3.4
*	30P//- KINFAUNS DANCER (1000) ASSEL REMOVE 8-10-6	NIV
DP F	MES ORBIT 1996; Rice Charge S, Wild Hose Of York 7 Tabu 7 10 8 D J Moditet S-1 (D McGatt) 11 ram	Tol S2.
-	Tales 7 10 6 DJ Mediatt 6-1 (D Mediatt) 11 cm	331
	THE ARM - December of Colone of the Colone o	
-I Yo	gr 11-4 Blue Charte, 7-2 Witd Roge Ol York, 4-1 Themsum, 5-1 Seycal Dencer, 5-1 Streed Thought, unc Saren, 33-1 Kinhous Duncer.	4.1
_	gr 11-4 Stee Cream, 7-2 Wild Repe OI Yers, 4-1 Tremeum, 5-1 Seyraf Dencer, 5-1 Surveid Trickoffe, ung Serven, 33-1 Kinibusa Duncer.	4.1 G I
1.5	gr 11-4 Size Charm, 7-2 Wild Rope Of York, 4-1 Tremeum, 5-1 Seyral Dencer, 5-1 Served Trought, ung Serven, 33-1 Kishuas Duncer. O PROCUSK HONOIC CHARGE IN 122,040	4 G I
1 2	gr 11-4 Blue Cremm, 7-2 Wild Rope Of York, 4-1 Tresseum, 5-1 Seyral Dencer, 5-1 State of Trought, uning States, 33-1 Kindhood Burger, 100 Perfectives, MONTOR CHANGE 344 12-340	4.1 G 1 15. T. 1 Col
1.5	gr 11-4 Blue Cremm, 7-2 Wild Rope Of York, 4-1 Tresseum, 5-1 Seyral Dencer, 5-1 State of Trought, uning States, 33-1 Kindhood Burger, 100 Perfectives, MONTOR CHANGE 344 12-340	4 G I
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large 7-4 Merry Rose, 2-1 Grand Scanley, 11-4 Farmer's Hand, 10-1 Overerkeim, 12-1 Sand King.

Musselburgh runners and riders 4.20 TREPLEMENT STANDARD OPEN HEI FLAT 2m \$1,551 PASINCROFT Mas S Williamson 6-11-5 ______ 4-10 HIGHLARD SPIN (45) Mrs. Id Revoley 5-11-6 ____ PRIPES OF PAN Mas S Williamson 6-11-5 _____ PHYS OF PAIN Mays 5 WHINGMON 5-11-5 DROWLAND PAINK (10) E ANION 5-11-0 CRETTIC COMMA W Roed 5-11-0 CRETTIC COMMA W Roed 5-11-0 CRETTIC SANIOLEM A AND 5-11-0 ARRANTS PET PIACKANS C-11-0 LEIGHT DE KENDRASSAM S KORDONEN 4-10-7 COLONEL GEORGE MAS S Brandi 3-10-7 JUST LIKE DAD M Todhungs 4-10-7 WHENTENELL FLYER P Moneth 4-10-7 TOP FORM TIPS: 1885: Tom Brodie S 11 S A Magaire 2-1 (J H Johnson) 15 res ettings 9-4 Highland Spin, 6-1 Colonel George, 7-1 Celus Comma, 8-1 Chief Or Abotassen, Gentle embler, 10-1 War Whoop

 Dean McKeown was banned for three days (February 7-9)
 for using his whip with unreasonable frequency when vinning yesterday's Armagh Handicap at Southwell on Stand

Results

Lac (2 m Metha): 1, NORTHERN

20,00 (7ft: 1, SQUARE DEAL, C Teague

20,00 (7ft: 1, SQUARE DEAL, C T

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3-09.

1-10 (2m of Midlo): 1, CETTMROAT KID,
Cabill (8-11 isv): 2, Sang in Trouble
-4): 3, Arabieride Harvest (12-1), Sran
-10. (Mrs M Revolvy) Tote E1 80, Dual F.
1.10 CSF E1.94 NR* Abbot of Furness,
olic Breoze, Chummy's Saga. Erzadjan. UADPOT: 08.30. PLACEPOT: 521 50

CS.00 (2:40, C) 10 Dual F E9:30 CSF: C16:77.

3.00 (2:m): 1, BADAWF, 1 Guinn (6-1): 2, Separa Basent Chaf. (11-2): 3, BEZpara (13-2): 5-1 fav La Menorquina. 13 ran. 11, 4. (N Babbage) Tore CS 90; C2. 10, C3 20, C1. 70. Dual F: C19:80, CSF: CSP 10, Tricast C2:10.51.

3.30 (6:r): 1, STAND TALL, Dean McKesown (5-1): 4, Standard TALL, Dean McKesown (5-1): 4, Standard TALL, Dean McKesown (5-1): 9 ran. 2, vid (C Thermon): 10th: CN 01; E2:20, E2:20, E2:70. Dual F: S12:30 CSF: E17:60. Tricast: C71-87. Tric. E15:50

4.00 (1:re): 1, BABLIMMCK, M Fenton (6-1): 2, Semblesfoot (4-1): flavi: 3, Effective CF-1, 4-1; Jav Domoties, 9 ran Hd. 12 (N Gratum): Tote C11:60. E2:90, C140, E1:90. Dual F: E2:30 CSF: E38:22. Tricast: E2:82. Tric. E36:50

4.30 (1:re): 1, IRCHESTER LASS, C Teaque B-22: 2, The Meshed (10-1): 8, Monety (6-1): 7-2 for Mill Dancer 9 ran. Shd. 6; Secorney 10th: (6:65: E2:0, E4:30. Dual F: E2:70 CSF: (43.40. Tricast: E2:1.65. Tric. E20.50. JACKPOT: Not won; \$39.312.68 carried for-ward to Langfield today. QUADPOT: \$19.50 PLACEPOT: \$82.80. Plumpton shandowed—frost. RACELINE
FULL RESULTS SERVICE
0891-168-168 0891 RESULTS MUSSELB'GH 101 | 201 | 301 LINGFIELD 102 202 302 RISH 120 220 320 SOUTHWELL

1.30 (1990): 1, CASCHARGE BLUE, J.
Worker [11-1]: 2, Karinaska (3-1 tw), 3, Indiabria (8-2) 6 run, 2, 1 17 Naupricon)
Tote: E17 30, E2.00. E1 60. E1.40. Dutal F

Soccer

Robson hit by FA fine for abuse

lan Ross

terday fell foul of the FA, which is be-lieved still to be keen to see Middlesbrough's man-ager installed as the next coach of England.

On the eve of the FA selection committee's meeting to discuss successors to Terry Venables, Robson was fined \$750 after being found guilty of bringing the game into dis-repute — his first such of-fence in a career which has

panned more than 20 years. Robson was also warned about his future conduct, along with two of his players Nigel Pearson and Neil Cox, of whom were found guilty of the same charges and fined £500 each.

The charges related to incidents around the players' tunnel and dressing-room area after the Premiership game against Blackburn Rovers at Ewood Park on December 16.

All three were accused of making foul and abusive remarks to the referee Paul Danson after Middles-brough's 1-0 defeat

Robson and his players waived their right to personal hearings, instead submitting letters of explanation.

Despite the blemish to his record. Robson will be high on the list of names considered for England today by the five-man committee chaired by the FA chairman Sir Bert

Millichip. Ian Wright could face a disrepute charge unless he fails to satisfy an FA disciplinary committee after comments the Arsenal striker made

Wright, speaking on Arsenal's official Clubcall line, said some referees behaved like "little Hitlers". Although he later wrote a letter of apology, he has been called to Lancaster Gate to explain

Arsenal's manager Bruce the Welsh coach Bobby G Rioch is also waiting to hear will be the first to know."

if he will face an FA charge over his bust-up with Newcasle's assistant manager Terry McDermott in the Coca-Cola Cup tie at Highbury earlier this month. Rioch, too, has apologised, while McDermott has tendered his observations to Lancaster Gate.

West Ham are poised to add Portuguese football's most precocious young talent,

legion of foreign players. The 18-year-old winger who came on as a substitute when England played Portugal at Wembley in December will spend the rest of the see son on extended trial at Upton Park if West Ham can agree personal terms.

Dani currently plays for announced his desire to move

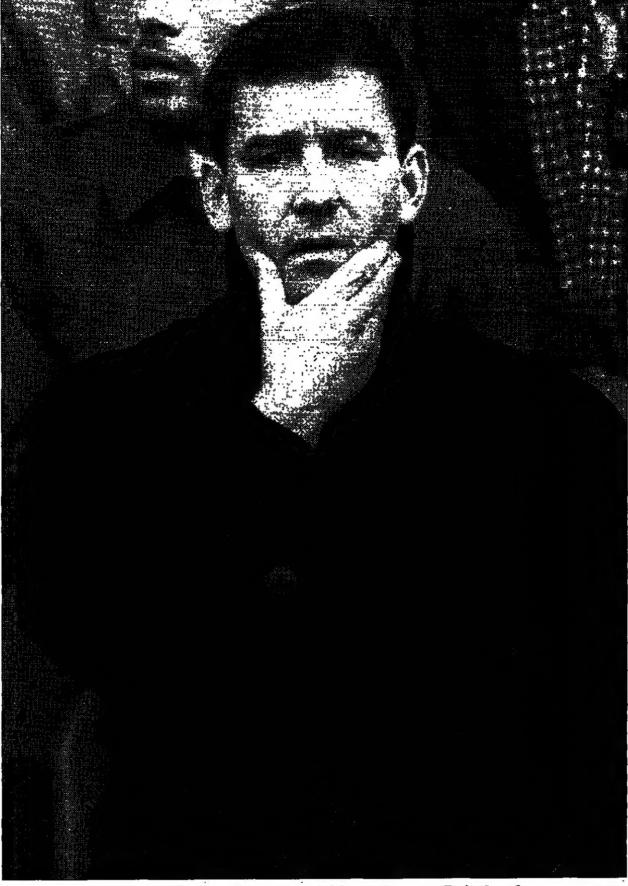
He enlisted the help of the former England manage Bobby Robson - now in charge at Porto — and Robson recommended him to West Ham's manager Harry

If Dani impresses, he would seek to make the move permaan asking price of between £2.5 million and £3 million.

Hottiger will miss next week's FA Cup fourth-round replay at Port Vale because of a delay over a new work permit. The Swiss international recently completed a £700,000 move to the Merseyside club

stituted last week against Italy, may have played his last game for Wales. Wales' ously considering retiring from international football 16 years after making the first of 74 appearances for his

my future at this level for some time now," he said. "When I do reach a decision,



Thinking it over . . . Robson, despite his punishment, is still high on the list as next England coach

BBC captures Auld Enemy clash

Russell Thomas

BC TV was last night hailing its capture of the England v Scotland international as the potential coun of Euro '96 coverage this game would draw an audience of around 17 million.

In claiming the game's oldest international on June 15 at Wembley, the BBC has salvaged some pride after the FA Cup final, its exclusive property for more than 50 years, to ITV from 1998.

The agreement drawn up with ITV yesterday to share coverage of England's biggest soccer jamboree since 1966 ers with rare blanket cover-

are 24 alone in the phase - will be screened. BBC chiefs were ecstation

about securing the all-British contest. "The game has cap tured the imagination of foot ball fans north and south of the border," said Brian Bar-wick, head of production for BBC TV sport. "It is a massive match

the focus of the opening round. I'm confident the game will attract a similar audience to the near 17 million for the 1990 World Cup semi-final between England and West Germany on BBC."

six Group A games. It has the tournament opener — Eng-land v Switzerland on June 8 and Scotland's first game,

age of top-class football. | together with the probable de-Every Euro '96 game — there | ciding games in the section | both ITV and BBC will pro-Scotland v Switze England v Holland.

ITV's head of football Jeff Farmer said: "We negotiated a sensible arrangement with first option to screen highthe BBC and I am delighted with ITV's package.
"We will kick off with the

razzmatazz of the opening ceremony and England's vital first game, followed by Scotland's match with Holland. "We have then got the exclusive live coverage of the

two games which will proba-bly decide if England and Scotland stay in the Both companies will screen the final live but BBC will have first choice of quarter-final matches. If either Scot-

land or England reach the

There will be no duplication of live games until the final stages of the competition. Each broadcaster has the

not covered live. TVI Jume St England v Switzerland. Jume St Spain v Bulgarla. Jume 10: Holland v Scotland. Jume 11 Turkey v Croatis. Jume 13: Bulgarla v Hormanis. Jume 14: Italy v Croatis. Jume 14: Italy v Croatis Republic. Jume 16: France v Spain. Jume 16: Republic. Jume 16: Croatis v Portugal. Turkey v Denmark. Jume 22: Croatis v Portugal. Turkey v Denmark. Jume 22: 23: Second choice of quarter-finals.

lights of matches they have

choice of quarter-fram.

Billich James Str Germany v Czech Republic.
Denmerk v Portugal. Jame 10: Romunia v
France. Jewes vi 11: Iziby v Rugela. Jewe 13: Switzerfand v Holland. Jame 14: Portugal
v Turkey, Jewes 15: England v Sootiand.
James 16: Crostis v Denmark. James 18: France v Bulgaria. Romanta v Spatin. Jewe 15: Rugsla v Czech Republic. Iziby v
Germany; James 23/23: First choice of cuerter-finals.

Kinnear puts six on transfer list to encourage next generation

VIMBLEDON's manager | £500,000 straight cash
Joe Kinnear yesterday | payment transfer list to pave the way for the club's emerging youngsters to challenge for

first-team places. Gary Blissett, the striker signed from Brentford for £350,000 in 1993, heads the list and is thought to be in-teresting Portsmouth and

Wycombe. Vinnie Jones has already had a transfer request granted but Wimbledon have so far resisted Bir-mingham's offer of £350,000 for the midfielder, plus £250,000 if he helps Barry Fry's team win pro-

motion to the Premership.

Jones is keen to go to Birmingham but Wimbledon

told his defenders Scott Fitzgerald and Roger Joseph, the midfielder Jus-tin Skinner and forwards Aidan Newhouse and Ger-ald Dobbs that they can leave Wimbledon.

Manchester United's promising young winger Terry Cooke has joined Sunderland on loan for month and will make his debut against Tranmere Rovers at Roker Park

Shrewsbury's FA Cur fourth-round replay with Liverpool, scheduled for February 6, has now been switched to February 7 (8pm) and will be an allare holding out for a ticket match.

Sport in brief

********************* **Table Tennis**

Carl Prean has declined to take part in next week's Olympic doubles qualifying competition in Nantes, writes Richard Jago. His decision means that his England teammate Andrew Eden, with whom he won a doubles gold medal at the Commonwealth Championships, will be de-nied a chance of representing Britain because one player in a partnership must have qualified for Atlanta in the singles

Tennis

Tim Henman, the British No. 1, has earned his highest world ranking, 84, by climbing six places on the strength of his victory over Petr Korda in the Australian Open.

Athletics

Chris Maddocks from Dawlish will represent Great Britain in the 50km walk in the Olympic Games in Atlanta. Athletics

Sun Caiyun of China reclaimed the world women's indoor pole vault record with 4.21 metres at a meeting in Landau, Germany, bettering the 4.20m set four days earlier by Daniela Bartova of the

Rugby League

Czech Republic.

The climax of the men's world circuit, the Super Series final. will he in a glass court at the Galleria Outlet in Hatfield writes Richard Jago. Sponsor-ship worth £68,000 has pro-

Bill Sorensen, who played 22 Tests for New Zealand between 1951 and 1960, has died in Auckland aged 63.

vided the unusual venue, the use of a demountable court. TV coverage and the presence

Lara extends olive branch to Richardson

Paul Weaver in

Cricket

Trinidad on hopes of an uneasy peace

RIAN LARA is usually more adept at waving his 501 hat than he is at swishing olive branches but, as he prepared to join West Indies' World Cup squad in Barbados tomorrow he called for an end to his rift with the captain Ri-

chie Richardson. After receiving the Man of the Match award for his in-nings of 77 and 119 in Trinidad's three-wicket win in their Red Stripe Cup opener against Barbados at Guaracars Park, Points a Pierre, he said: "West Indies cricket has a responsibility to the West Indies people and we must all be professional. We must for-get the past and look to the future.

"I am looking forward to the cricket camp in Barbados although it depends on how the team management plan to the team management plan to use it. Hopefully there will be a lot of good cricket talk. I think most of the other players understand my situation and the attitude of the Barbades continuent in the past dos contingent in the past few days has been very

encouraging."

Lara and Richardson are still unlikely to embrace in Bridgetown tomorrow. Their relationship is colder than a chilled rum punch since Lara's criticism of his captain in England last season was

tour Australia. Richardson, a poor captain of an ageing, declining team who is having problems with

his own form, knows he is likely to be replaced by Lara before the end of the year. Lars added yesterday: "We are still a good one-day side, although we are bound to miss Carl Hooper in the World Cup. Despite some dis-appointing results in Austra-

lia we have made a good start to the new year, losing just once in four game "I intend to use Barbados to get in plenty of net practice. am rusty. Even though I scored runs in this game my timing is not there yet. I

badly need more time in the middle." The rather forlorn looking Barbados fast bowlers Ander son Cummins, Vasbert Drakes, Ottis Gibson and Patterson Thompson might have disagreed. Although Lara was certainly not at his most fluent during his first-innings 77, his second-innings cen-tury bore examples of his

richest stroke play. Meanwhile Lara continues to be plagued by his problems off the pitch. He is building a mansion on one of the green, lush hills that overlook Port of Spain but the construction work was stopped when the world-record batsman could not provide a deed for the

When it was finally handed over, shifting land caused another delay. Lara, it seems, is only trouble-free at the wicket.

Waugh sends Boon off on a win

AUSTRALIA lost a senior | 35. "David came into the pro but won a series yes- | team in 1984 when it wasn't terday when David Boon bowed out after 107 Tests, with his team-mates cele-brating a 3-0 whitewash of Sri Lanka thanks to a 148rum victory with an hour to spare in the third and final Test in Adelaide.

doing too well and he leaves the Australian side now as a winner," said Mark Taylor. "His last game for Australia [is] the most emotional moment during my time as captain." Steve Waugh was the

They were even moved to hugging the beefy musta-chioed Tasmanian, omitted from the World Cup and Lanka looked like battling now retiring at the age of it out after tea.

ward for Hull and Feather-

stone: and Laurent Lucchese

had successful spells with Huddersfield and Sheffield.

Todd Brown, Glen Cannon,

and a Moldovan Mikail

French stars have decided to

The Under-21 international between Great Britain and

Piscunov.

join us."

There are six Australians:

800 1 72

ce Hockey

150

We .

400

Rugby League

Salford draw short straw

Paul Fitzpatrick

emerged from last night's fifth-round Silk Cut Challenge Cup draw, and for Salford it produced the ultimate test.

Daniel Coote. Karl Jaavuo, Jason Sands and Ian Turner; a New Zealander Darren Ad-ams; a Pole Gregory Kacala; Their task is to prevent Wigan winning their 44th consecutive Challenge Cup tie and, if any man knows what is required, it is the Salford coach Andy Gregory, who played for Wigan in five of the citch final synearances they Paris's chief executive Tas Baitieri says: "It is an ex-tremely strong squad and we are delighted that so many eight final appearances they have made since 1988.

Salford, the First Division champions, have home advantage and Wigan will recall that they lost twice within a few weeks at The Willows in ship and then in the Regal

Trophy.
West Hull, one of two amateur clubs remaining, might not have finished their giantkilling yet. They beat York last Friday and their reward is another home draw, against Carlisle or Wakefield. For Thatto Heath, the other

amateur club, there is a chance that they could play their doorstep neighbours St Helens. First, though, they must beat Rochdale and Saints must defeat Costleford.
Paris's 26-man squad for the Super League, which starts in March, contains 12 full French internationals

and a number of players fam-iliar with the English game.

France, due to be played at Hunslet Hawks' new stadium in Leeds on Sunday, has been postponed The weather has been The weather has been blamed but, with so many fourth-round Challenge Cup ties still to be completed, many of them next weekend, the Under-21 side would have borne little resemblance to the crisinal salestion.

the original selection.

Tonight's academy international against France at Sal-ford has also been postponed and is now due to be played next Tuesday at Hull KR.

Salford hope to sign Somy Whakarau, the 30-year-old Sheffield Eagles forward who is on loan at Wakefield. The deal hinges on Whakarau, also a target for Keighley, leaving his Doucaster home.

and a number of players familiar with the English game.

Patrick Entat, France's captain and scrum-half, played for Hull and Leeds; Frederic Banquet is with Wakefield Trinity; Daniel Divet was an outstanding back-row for-

Boxing

McMillan back for nothing

THE Broadway Theatre, Barking, provides the modest setting tonight for an unpaid comeback, by. Colin McMillan, who in May 1992 beat Italy's Maurizio Stecca to the Frank Maloney promobile the World Region Committee of the Maloney promobile of the World Region Committee of the Prank Maloney promobile of the World Region Committee of the Maloney promobile of the Maloney p win the World Boxing Organisation featherweight title, writes Don Beet.

A bizarre shoulder injury.

tion will go to charity Now McMillan has his eyes,

perhaps misguidedly, on the multi-talented Naseem sustained during his first de Hamed. "Money is not my fence five months later main objective but he's the against Ruben Palacio of Co- man I want," he said. "Twe lombia turned McMillan's which to get the fight but they world upside down and don't want to know.

Hibernian Krimerwood Raith Ryrs Aberdeen Rangers 18 Inswich 14 Lalcaster 15 Shoft Utd SCOTTERN FRIST 21 Brighton
21 Brighton
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25 Notis Co
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13 Rangere 05 Nottm. Forest

POSTOCHE LEAGUES Third Divisions Postponed Donesser v Lincoln. PA TROPHY: First-round replays Postponeds Westing v Rethresit Tr. First-round, second replayst Postponed: Dover v Chettensem, hipde Utd v Marine, Troubridge Tr v Sedbary Tr.
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Postponed Linkond League v English Univ.
UNISONE LEAGUE: First Divisions Postponed Ashion Utd vol Hawwood Tolis LEAGUE: First Divisions Post-

VALE. AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: Pirst Division: Postponed: Briefs Ryrs v Tottenham. SPRINGHEATH PRINT CAPITAL

SOUTH APPROAM MASTERS (San La-moor CC, Port Elizabeth): Final accesses (SA utiless strand). 280 W Westner 69. 58, 70, 73. 222 C Williams 71, 69, 69, 74 W Schutz 70, 72, 70, 71; P Moore (US) 59, 72, 71, 71, 224 M Christe (US) 57, 78, 69, 72 71, 71, 284 M Christie (US) 67, 76, 69, 72 T Dodds (harm) 71, 13, 70, 70, 285 I Hutch-lags 70, 73, 74, 68; M Mchulty (Zm) 68, 69, 72, 76, 286 G Reid 72, 70, 73, 71; F Outne-jar (US) 73, 69, 72, 72, 287 B OU (US) 72, 74, 70, 71, 268 R McCann 74, 71, 72, 71, 289 I Palmer 70, 70, 71, 78; R Salter (Aut) 58, 76, 68, 77; S van der Merwe 72, 70, 73, 74; D Tertisanche 19, 77, 71, 72; B Uncoln 73, 72, 73, 71; M Schotz 71, 75, 74, 69, 296 C Davison (GS) 70, 73, 70, 77; N Herning 69, 76, 71, 74; N Secochi 68, 74, 71, 76; D Higgins (Ire) 68, 72, 74, 78; M Gortana 72, 74, 63, 76; J Mesthago 72, 72, 70, 78.

Athletics

Basketball

Athletics
COMBINED EVENTS INDOOR INTERMATSORAL (Seville): Ment Neptathlene
1, K Damaslek (Cz) 5881; 2, G lapichino (It)
5865; 3, R Sabrie (Cz) 5825; 4, B Thomas
(BZ/Sheffiald) 5095; 5, N V76 (It) 5804; 9, F
Zpj (Noth) 5383, Other GS: 11, 5 Rogers
(Liverpool Pernharole) 5089, Dde not fileishe R Joseph (Dacorum & Tring). Teamse:
1, Cz 11806; 2, Raiy 11270; 3, Nesberlands
10789; 4, Spain 10710; 5, Great Britain
10893, Warmen: Perstatition: 1, 1 Vinarova (Cz) 4319; 2, G B Bacher (It) 4225; 3, J
Bennett (SB/Epsom & Eveli) 4225; 4, M
Vegassak: (Spi 4211; 3, V Schoffield
(GB/Rotherham) 4186; 6, K Perigenalii (It)
4158, Other GR: 13, S Damm (City of
Stoke) 3248, Taasses; 1, Cz 544; 2, Grobe
Britain 8405; 3, ftsly 6394; 4, Netherlands
3029; 5, Spain 7869.

SCOTTISH CUIPt Semi-final draws: Here Edinburgh v Glangow: Livingston v Palsley Womene Kool Kats v Catedonia: Polonia v Livingston.
Wilker Chicago 90. Phoef of E. Leading stundings: 1. Eactors Conference Allantic Divisions: 1. Orlando (WO). L12. PCI 714. GB0): 2 New York (26–15.

Hockey

Ice Hockey

Snooker

Cricket

THERD TEST: Adelaider Australia 523-9 dec (5 Waugh 170, M Waugh 71, 1 Houly 70) and 216-6 dec (6 Waugh 51no). Sri Lanka 317 (H Tillekeratne 65, Reitfel 5-39) and 232 (5 Jaysurrya 712, 5 Ranahunga 65, 5 Waugh 4-34, McGrain 3-48). Austra-65. S Waugh 4-34, McCstan 3-461. Australia won by 148 runs. SHEEF-RELD SHEEL DS Sydneys Wostern Australia 402 and 193-4 dec New South Wales 259 and 250-5 (M Sewan 108), Match drawn. Briebasset Cuceraland 533-6 dec Tasmania 336 and 330-8 (S Young 175ng).

Waise 259 and 220-5 (M Beyran 108), Maich drawn, Briabassec Uncertaind \$30-6 (6c. Tasmania 336 and 330-8 (8 Young 175ng), CASTLE GUPP Devisione Natio 277 (0 Corolues 111no), Western Province 85 (Klusener 8-34) and 273-7 (6 Kinstein 75no) Match drawn, Port Ellessheeth, Border 253 (Shaw 6-45) and 181. Eastern Province 405 (R. Koan 154, P Arm 83, D Callaghan 66; Fouris 6-76; and 37-0. Eastern Province won by 10 wichels Previous Boland 255 (K Jackson 100, A Wessels 55; de Villiers 4-23), Anniers Transvaal 55 (Telemachus 4-23), Anniers Transvaal 55 (Telemachus 4-23), Anniers Transvaal 55 (R Sneil 105, N McKenze 58), Free State 203-7 dec and 301 (C Crawen 90, L Williams 4-6). Transvaal 50 (Telemachus Rein) (C Crawen 90, L Williams 60), Transvaal won by lour runs.

RED STRIPE CUPP Polista-Plears Burbasos 357 and 225 (Transtat den Tobago 203 and 301-7 (B Lara 118, S Ragoonam 55), Transdad and Tobago won by linge wickets.

American Football

REPRESENTATIVE (Reading): Oxfor Univ A 2. Royal Navy 8

BRITTEN LEAGUE Premier Division Cardill 17. Humberside & Durham 9. Ba ingstoke 1; Newcastle 5. Nottingham Slough 9. File 9 Orbides Ones Bracks 6. Medway 2. Guidford 6. Dumfries Aunchester 26. Solihuli 3: Murrayfield Blackburn 7: Passley 11, Peterborough Telford 4, Swindon 11. MSL Washington 3, Philadelphia 2 (ol Montroal 5, Boston 4.

Rugby Union

RECAL WELSH OPEN (Newport): First rounds P Humber (Eng) bt N Foulds (Eng) 5-2, P Ebdon (Eng) bt A Hamilton (Eng) 5-3. Socooler rounds T Miurphy (NI) bt G Williamson (Eng) 5-3. D Taylor (NI) bt G Williamson (Eng) 5-3. D Taylor (NI) bt F Grach (Mail 5-0. T Chapped (Mailes) bt T Griffins (Wales) 5-7. J Haggins (Sooi) bt J Griffins (Wales) 5-7. J Haggins (Sooi) bt W Jones (Vales) 5-3. D Hamber (Eng) bt K Payne (Eng) 5-4. D Hostry (Scot) bt J Gilos (Eng) 5-6. Z Smaddon (Scot) bt R O Sutilivan (Eng) 5-4. Ice Hockey BRITISH LEAGUE Division One lingham v Blackburn (8.0): Guidte Brackmelt to to

Fixtures

Soccer ANGLO-ITALIAN CUP: Se York, Southern Southort Semi-finat, Art Sept Peterborough v Bristal Rvs (7.45). ENOSLEGGY LEAGUE First Divisions Sunderland v Tranmera. Second Divisions Brentond v Wycombo (7.45); Burnley v Cxford Utd. Third Divisions Earnel v Torquay (7.45); Burnley v Exchor Utd. Third Divisions Earnel v Torquay (7.45); Darington v Precion (7.45); Except v Hartlepol (7.45); Fulham v Scundard V Scun and Eden has not done so.

Torquay (7.45): Darlington v Presion (7.45); Easter v Hartlepol (7.45); Fulham v Scunthorpe (7.45); Gillingham v Manched (7.45); Northampton v Phymouth (7.45); Wigan v Colchaster (7.45); TENNENT'S SCOTTISM CUP? There rounds Motherwell v Aberdeen (7.45); Glydehenk v String: Darnbarton v Airdrier, Fallerk v Rochausemaur.
SCOTTEN LEAGUER Second Divisions Berwick v Forler.
GM VALXINIALL CONFESIENCE (7.45) Macclesfield v Altrincham; Northwesh v Bromagnove; Tellord v Kilderminister.
UNIBOND LEAGUER Preveder Barrow v Bishop Auckland Bord v Midderminister.
UNIBOND LEAGUER Preveder Barrow v Bishop Auckland Bord v Midderminister.
UNIBOND LEAGUER Preveder Barrow v Bishop Auckland Bord v Midderminister.
Unitabona League Previser Sutton Util v Purfacet. First Meldenhead Util v Thame Util, Universe V Persident Tr. Thirds Aveley v Hardord Tn. Gartison Trephyn Third rossets Carroys Jisland v Caydon; Whenhee Tn v Bracknell Tn. Thirds Aveley v Hardord Tn. Gertson Trephyn Third rossets Carroys Jisland v Caydon, Whenhee Carroys Jisland v Caydon, Whenhee Carroys Jisland v Caydon, Hungerford Tn v Harripter, Northwood v Wealdstone Beazet Houses LEAGUER Medical Capital Middlend Divisione Eversam Util v Redditch Util Dr. Harrison Countries LEAGUER First Divisione Kidagrove Ah v Mossley.

Northwelm Countries LEAGUE First Div-Island Kidagrove Ah v Mossley.

Process Services (2004) Promise Broughton Wel.

CREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Promise Briden
Rers v Biratol MF.

PONTRIS LEAGUE (7.0): First Darby v

These That Hel v Neueradia, Second

v Bangor. COUNTY ANTIQUE SHIELD: Final: Cru-

SRU TERMENTS CHAMPIONSHIP: Regional Leagues East Once Edinburgh Windra v Gurrie. CLUB EATCHES: Durvant v Swancoa (7.0); Maceteg v Penarth (7.0); Tonde v Treorchy (7.0); Cross Keys v Lianetii (7.0) WIND WIEDWEEK COMPETITION: Pool C: Camphilly v Llanharan (7.0).

صكا س الديل

ATP defends

drugs policy

Paul Fitzpatrick on a ground-share scheme at Headingley that may be followed by other northern get-togethers

Leeds to forge new union

set a trend with northern rugby union and league clubs will be forged in Leeds today. Leeds's rugby union side is to move next season from its current dwelling at Kirkstall to the rugby league home at nearby Headingley.

The ground share is rich in

na. symbolic significance and helps continue the thaw in relations between the two codes that began last August when rugby union announced that it would embrace professionalism.

It may also mark the first of many relationships between Leeds rugby union club neighbouring league and emerged from an amalgam of

ONATHAN Humphreys

epitomises the spirit of New Wales. Bullish

even for a captain, the

26-year-old Cardiff booker has

no doubts that his country is standing on the threshold of

success after 17 years of rela-

Humphreys's rise has been

remarkable. A year ago he was not considered among the

est three hookers in Wales;

before Alex Evans became Cardiff's coaching organiser in 1992 Humphreys was only

the third-choice hooker for

of Penarth who played for Cardiff between 1988 and 1993,

remembers touring North

America with Cardiff seven

of the hookers. His name was

Jonathan Humphreys. He was worse than useless. He could not tackle, could not scrum-mage and could not throw the

ball into the line-out. He has

obviously worked on his

game."
The former Wales hooker

joined the club. "There was nothing to him. He was weak and skinny. He could not have bench-pressed two bags of sugar. I told him to bulk up by eating more and working on the which the because he

ball in the scrum.

on the weights because he was too easily pushed off the

"He had a huge heart and

desperately wanted to suc-ceed. He came from the same

area as me near Bridgend and

he had achieved nothing as a

nothing to dim his desire or

Colin, a former amateur box-

and he was fortunate that the

nur his enthusiasm and his father

ing champion, spurred him on. He took a year off college and worked on his game. He anticipated professionalism

'This little guy came as one

Mark Edwards, the captain

tive obscurity.

the club.

years ago.

Rugby Union

N alliance that may union clubs in the north. Or set a trend with rell, for instance, will play ley clubs at the beginning of cerned about what rugby union and league Park in March and the rugby Four club recently sold their not do. We are only really union club is interested in a permanent ground-share.
Once rugby league's Super
League begins this spring,
players from the 13-man code

may play the 15-man game during the winter if allowed by their rugby league clubs. Headingley, one of rugby league's best stadiums, will provide rugby all year round. That is not something that unduly concerns Keith Boyce, the croundsman, but it might worry many league followers. Leeds rugby union club

Captain adds weight

David Plummer on Jonathan Humphreys | few weeks ago, he was given a room with feuan Evans so

lock Derwyn Jones at the Arms Park helped make Car-

diff the best line-out team in Wales, Evans's immediate

objective.
"I was surprised it took

Jonathan so long to break into the international side,"

said Evans, who was Wales's coach in last summer's World

Humphreys's presence in South Africa. "He is one of

the best hookers I have seen.

He has this incredible will to win. He hates losing and I liked that. Wales badly needs

winners. And failure is not

'The difference

is that he now

has the frame

part of the Jonathan Hum-

his debt to Evans who left Cardiff last month to return

to Australia. "I was very

sorry to see him go because he had an incredible influ-

ence on my career. He was

"When he arrived at Cardiff we had gone through a terri-ble period. We were a soft touch, one off the bottom of the First Division. We had the

more than just a coach to me.

players but we did not have

the attitude. Alex knew what

was wrong as soon as he set foot in the club. All he talked

about was winning.
"The young players who

have come into the Wales

chosen to play against Italy a than Humphreys."

to match his

phreys vocabulary."

Alan Phillips was the Cardiff coach when Humphreys

appointment of Alex Evans squad are all winners. When coincided with his putting on 19-year-old Leigh Davies was

to Wales optimism

and how he became a hooker of substance

ground for £2,250,000. That kind of money could

give them enormous clout and Leeds's rugby league fans could be forgiven for wonder-ing which club in the years ahead will be dictating the terms. Such a concern is a subject of investigation in the current

egy to get a firm foothold in a couple of league's strongest clubs.

that the new cap had the ben-efit of Ieuan's experience.

nerves. It will be the same at

Twickenham, England have a

great reputation and they have been Europe's best side

this decade but we will not

"We intend to give them

something to think about be-

cause we are on our way back. We know we will not be

years but we want to make

people sit up and take notice. The pressure will be on Eng-

land because they are ex-pected to win. That suits us."

in the championship but it

will be a major surprise if he

is not in the side Wales name

today. He made his break-through last March when he

played in the A international

against Ireland at Ponty-

pridd; within two weeks Alex Evans had been appointed caretaker coach of Wales and

Humphreys has not looked

back, though he remains con-scious of the challenge to his

from the expe

"A lot has happened in the past 10 months," said Hum-

phreys, who is now employed by the Welsh Rugby Union as

a promotions and develop-

ment officer, having had a similar job with Cardiff. "I am not happy at just having arrived. I want to stay and help make Wales a force again."

Phillips is in no doubt that

Phillips is in no doubt that

he will. "He is hungry for it.

There are few greater competitors on the scene. He is es-

arrived at Cardiff seven years

ago. The one difference is that

he now has the frame to match his heart. England may

be the firm favourites to win

on Saturday but there is at

least one person who is con-

Humphreys has yet to play

hold them in awe.

Evans then worked on through the door, Leigh Humphreys's line-out throw-ripped into him. He just

ing, converting him to the wanted to get out and play, two-handed style favoured in unfazed by the whole experi-Australia. The arrival of the ence and not troubled by

Cup and had a major say in a great side for two or three

"As soon as they got

issue of Open Rugby, which suggests that it is purt of rugby union's overall strat-

couple of the very top [league] clubs, because after we have got them the rest do not

matter." Leeds's union club, at present in danger of relegation, would undoubtedly benefit from ground-sharing. Apart from the possibility of borrowing players during the winter, they would be playing in an excellent stadium and on an excellent surface. It could give them consider able drawing power if such

Tait, Craig Innes or Jim Fal-lon were to "guest" for them — as Widnes's former Wales and Lions international John Devereux will do for the League One club Sale over the next three seasons.

Leeds — it is not too diffi-

cult to envisage — could thus become a union power-base before too long and would be in a position to exploit any future developments, such as the adoption of a hybrid code. The difference between the Leeds scenario and that at Orrell is that, even though Or-

rell are one of the game's senior clubs, they enjoy noth-ing like the wealth of Leeds and would move in with



Tait . . . union links

Wigan very much as the cash-

strapped lodgers.
Orrell, incidentally, are likely to introduce Wigan to the mysteries of union in preparation for the union game against Bath in May. Wigan and Bath are meet-ing in a two-match series that

month when they will play a game under each code on neutral grounds, probably Goo dison Park and Twickenham Practice matches between Wigan and Orrell are in the

Slam events — the US, Australian and French Opens, and Wimbledon — tested. Last year was the first time there has been official testing HE tennis authorities moved yesterday to defend their drug-testat Wimbledon, while the ing procedures, de-spite the threat of court action this week by Mats Wilander and Karl Novacek French Open has been tested two years in succession. The sport has come under most fire for rejecting offers

of independent testers from, for example, the Sports Coun-cil and by claiming internally monitored testing was satisto challenge the results of an alleged positive test for co-caine at last year's French Drug-testing insiders have criticised the ATP Tour's as-

sertion that it can police itself without the help of outside bodies. But Peter Alfano, a vice-president of the Tour, yesterday said the process was thorough and effective. "We did, counting the women, over 900 total tests last year." said Alfano. "In professional sport there is a lot to be gained by maintaining control of the drugs-test-ing process and controlling what information gets out men's tennis alone there were about 426 and 19 of the top 20 players were tested at least once. And 80 of the top 100 players were tested at least once. So we feel the testing about it to protect the name of the sport. I believe, though, that termis has been having

top players on tour tested." Testing does not take place at every tournament nor essarily, at the majority. The ATP selects tournaments at random without telling the players. Then on the first day of that tournament players are told that everyone entered must take a test in the course of the week. "One of the strongest parts of our programme s that it is unannounced," said Alfano. "Nobody has any idea which tournaments will be tested. We don't even tell

programme is quite effective

in really getting most of the

factory. The International Tennis Federation employs its own commercial testing company.
"We are always initially sceptical about people policing their own sport," said a Sports Council spokesman yesterday. When you are looking at a

more of a dialogue with us in the past year and their drugs programme is certainly very thorough."

The ATP says its samples are all analysed at Interna-tional Olympic Committee accredited laboratories and that it follows IOC guidelines on testing. That can be a lengthy process. But Alfano said: "It's more important that the decision is correct than how long

it takes. We wouldn't an nounce any findings until a player has exhausted a long list of options. But we are talkbe tested. We don't even tell ing about a player's career anyone how many tournaments we will test." ing about a player's career here, so it is right that they should be able to defend them-Neither are all the Grand | selves to the full."

IHF blows whistle on offside rule

Patrick Rowley

FFSIDE is to be abolished for at least a year after the Olympics in

Atlanta this summer.
The change in the offside tacker inside the 20-years to be at least as far from the flag.

The experiment follows a goalline as two opponents at the moment the ball is passed, has been made in an attempt to transfer the balance of power towards attackers". It s hoped that the change will result in "less whistling, in- tic changes in an effort to creased open spaces around

the circle and more goals".

The change will apply in all international matches after August 5 but, in announcing this and other experimental

changes, coaches are liable to find counters all too soon. Two other experimental

rules are to be introduced. All players other than the striker will have to be five yards from the ball at free hits, hitsin and corners while the rule, which currently (long) corner is to be taken requires the foremost at-tacker inside the 25-yard line five yards from the corner

meeting between the Hockey Rules Board and the recently introduced Rules Advisory Panel, which is believed to have wanted even more drasmake the game more attractive for players and

spectators.

Canadian officials said yes terday in Barcelona that they had written to the IHF prochanges, the International testing at the circumstances Hockey Federation said which led to their failure to national associations may in-troduce them when they wish. Olympic qualifying tourna-ment there. Malaysia, needgiven an extensive trial aling a point from their last ready in Germany and Aus-tralia and briefly, in conjunc-final place on Sunday when tion with other changes, in they gained a goalless draw England. More goals have with India in a travesty of a resulted but, as with most competitive match.

Basketball

Magic returns to the Lakers

AGIC JOHNSON's on-off-on retirement is off again. The player whose pass-ing and all-round game placed was aborted when some playhim in a trinity of outstanding players during the Eighties signed a new contract with the Los Angeles Lakers yesterday. He will play his first NBA game for 4½ years against the Golden State War-

riors at the Los Angeles

Johnson, now 36, retired from the NBA in 1991 after he tested positive for HIV. Since then he has run his own touring team — they beat an English select at the London Arena two years ago — and will make briefly served as the Lakers' the West."

ers proved unwilling to expose themselves to infection, however faint the risk. Johnson was the point guard

- the playmaker - for the Lakers' teams that won five NBA championships in the Eighties but he will resume his career at power forward.
"He adds so much," said the

Lakers guard Sedale Threatt. "He can play five positions. I centrate on him and, with the nucleus we already have, it will make us the best team in

Bath and Bristol on course for cup derby Roumat talks

Robert Armstrong

zr.T

result of yesterday's draw at Twickenham for the Pilkingmatches away to League Two opponents, Wakefield and Bedford respectively, to set up a lucrative meeting that should be worth a six-figure

Leicester could have a re-run of their 1993 cup final tri-One and Twickenham may on umph over Harlequins, this time at Welford Road, pro- However, before the quar-

tion on two unrelated counts:

for failing to faifil a fixture

last Saturday and using two players who were unregis-

VENDER MINERAL ACCESSORS OF A COMMON

sum in gate revenue.

vided both clubs overcome ter-finals can be staged on their fifth-round hurdles, Sar-acens and Newcastle Gosforth. Wesps, last year's finals can be staged on staged on suddenly makes all those Saturdays in November when we forth. Wesps, last year's final seven fifth-round ties to be didn't have any league games originally due to play at Kings. ATH; the holders, face the probability of a derby against Bristol at booked a club in the last the Memorial Ground as at the Memorial Ground as a tight, must travel to either Nottingham or Gloucester. more than the last final appears to be the most likely their postponed fifth-round League Two candidates for a League Two candidates for a place in this sesson's semi-finals. If the promotion seeking Exiles win their fifth-round game at Leeds, their quarter final will be at home to either West Hartlepool or

not be beyond them.

settled. Postponed cup games take priority over Courage league fixtures which means they can be rearranged for next month's league Satur-days, February 10 or 17. Some matches such as Leeds v London Irish, which do not entail the release of internationals, could be played this week. The Bath secretary John Quin described the developing backlog of league fixtures as "worrying" in view of the relative lack of free Saturdays up until the end of April and

didn't have any league games look very precious," said Quin. "Good weather in previous seasons has lulled us into a false sense of security." Quin criticised the enforced long breaks from league and cup action imposed on clubs by the Rugby Football Union during midwinter and called for a more carefully struc-tured season for 1996-7. "We have become vulnerable at Bath due to our own success

Bath are trying to persuade Gloucester, whom they were originally due to play at Kingsholm on December 30, to stage their League One match on April 20. Bath, who currently lead the league by two points, may also have their away game against Orrell, schedarranged for March 9 in order to accommodate their cup game against Wakefield. The Yorkshire club have yet to agree to host that game on February 10.

as "worrying" in view of the at club and international relative lack of free Saturdays level," he added. "If we cannot re-arrange outstanding the additional demands on infixtures at a time when all ternational players until mid- our players are available it.

with Wasps

OLIVIER ROUMAT, the Dax and France lock, is the latest overseas playe to be courted by an English club. Roumat has had talks with Wasps over a possible move to London next

If he did move, Roumat could partner the former Wales captain Gareth Llewellyn who has signed registration forms with the League One club but not yet finalised a move. The former Australia

captain Michael Lynagh recently signed a threeyear contract with Sara-cens, who have also attempted to sign France's centre Philippe Sella.

Athletics

London Marathon pledges itself to BBC with Flora and chips

that means turning down more money from a satellite channel.

"Money is not the be-all and end-all to the London Marathon." said Nick Bitel.

The extra money will not the sale of Flora margarine, who will sponsor the event on April 21 for the first time, have invested £6 million in this year's race.

The extra money will not

want to extend it and we are keen for them to do so." The BBC has shown the race since its founding in 1981 and helped it become established alongside the Boat Race and the Grand National as one of the country's great sporting occa-sions. The makers of Flora

Instead the money is renewal. Flora are taking being spread around to promote the event. A nation-wide television advertising be the use of computer techcampaign, which will run nology — originally de-through until race day, has signed for Formula One

There have been signs in recent years that even 26,000 runners pounding around the capital's streets and raising millions formation every time them. around the capital's streets formation every time they and raising millions for charity no longer guarantees the rapt attention of the nation.

the nation.

Bitel, however, believes that Flora's involvement andlence know exactly who

yesterday. "The marathon is for everyone and we the marketing director, believes there is already sufficient cash there to attract expires in 1997 but the BBC the biggest names.

That Flora's involvement will reinvigorate the event. Is in the leading bunch and will reinvigorate the event. To some extent people have lost awe of the London by how far), and will produce the biggest names.

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Swedes and freeze could land Warriors in hot water ture at Nottingham where the pair, both Lars Tunell and to obtain two further players they arrived without incident Niklas Gullikson were in as replacements, even if that at 4pm. The Warriors' action cluded in Warriors' side for is after this season's transthey arrived without incident at 4pm. The Warriors' action "is under review", said the **BIHA secretary David Pickles**

HE Newcastle Warriors are under scrutiny by the British Ice Hockey Associayesterday.

Durham may have regret ted not following their neigh-bour's example after losing 8-3 at Nottingham, where Neil Morgan (3) and Ashley Tait (2) led the home side's

tered on Sunday.

The Warriors, having ignored police warnings of worsening road conditions scoring.
The BIHA has also written when setting off at 11.30am to all Premier Division clubs for Saturday night's game at regarding Newcastle's use of two players "signed" last obort the trip around 90 minutes later having made only 40 miles progress to Scotch Corner. However, the Durante of the Swedish federation subsections.

Sunday's home game with Nottingham Panthers which ended in a 5-5 draw. Although the BIHA has

lodged an appeal with the In-ternational Ice Hockey Feder-ation on behalf of the Newcas-tle club, neither player can be registered in Britain until it is resolved, said Pickles, add-ing: "Therefore, by including them [against Nottingham] the club have breached our regulations."
No action will be taken

Corner. However, the Dur-ham Wasps fulfilled their fix-an International Transfer for the BIHA will permit the club in hand.

is after this season's trans-fer deadline at midnight tomorrow. However, the club could

still be fined, with Sunday's game possibly declared to have been forfeited 5-0 for "playing unregistered or ineligible players". Saturday's top-of-the-table clash at Sheffield against Car-diff Devils was a victim of the weather. Cardiff took full advantage of the respite, beating Humberside 17-6 at home on Sunday to reduce Shaffield's until the IIHF announces a lead at the top of the Premier decision on the transfer. If Division to only two points. lead at the top of the Premier

wants to pledge its tele-vision future to the BBC until the end of the century to ensure the event contin nes to reach as wide an au-dience as possible, even if

the event's chief executive

go towards the elite end of the race as David Bedford.

SportsGuardian

United poach another player

ANCHESTER United's desire to ensuare English football's brightest young talent landed them in trouble again yester-day when they were found guilty of "poaching" a top schoolboy player for the second time this month.

United were fined £20,000 by the Football Association for making an illegal approach to the 17-year-old Oldham Athletic player David Brown, whose decision to leave Boundary Park could well cost the Old Trafford club in excess of £100,000 once the question of compensation has been settled.

Two weeks ago United es-caped punishment after being found guilty of illegally ap-proaching Arsenal's Matthew Wicks, son of the former Chelsea player Steve, because the 16-year-old decided to return

An FA Commission instructed United to pay undis-closed costs of yesterday's

The members took into consideration the mitigation presented by Manchester United and decided to fine the club. The fine imposed stands separate from the question of compensation between the parties or referral to the Foot-ball League appeals committee for a decision," said an FA

United's chairman Martin Edwards said last night that his club was "seriously con-sidering" lodging an appeal against yesterday's verdict.

The fate of Faustino As-prilla, who has denied his proposed £6.7 million transfer to Newcastle is in doubt because of a knee injury, now appears to be in the hands of the immigration authorities.

A Department of Employ ment spokesman has confirmed that the Colombian international's application for a work permit had been

Although Asprilla meets DoE criteria in terms of his footballing pedigree, there is the Colombian's criminal record to consider. He is serving a suspended prison sentence for a firearms offence. Asprilla's belief that he is

now fully fit and ready to Parma may not be shared by Newcastle, who have asked the Italian club for copies of all his medical records.

RANGERS' WOE AS ALLEN MISSES SECOND-HALF PENALTY



Feet first . . . John Spencer tries to intercept a clearance from QPR's goalkeeper Jürgen Sommer at Loftus Road last night

FA Cup, fourth round Queens Park Rangers 1, Chelsea 2

Chelsea's spot of luck

HELSEA's advance towards the fifth round of the revived Queens Park Rangers' interest in last night's tie with an outstanding shot. Then they missed a penalty two minutes later.

QPR had early opportuniies to gain some sort of grip on the match but squanders them all, and they looked out of the contest after Peacock and Furlong had given Chelsea a 2-0 half-time lead. Qua-shie then met a clearance from Duberry in the 67th min-

ute with a firm left-footed shot into the top right-hand corner of the net but after Hitchcock, the Chelsea goal-keeper, had been penalised in the 69th for fouling Hateley.

Allen dragged his kick wide. A fifth-round visit to West winners of last night's tie. Dicks or Haddocks, either way, as ties go, it was more of a prune than a plum. For QPR, however, victory was of more immediate con-

cern than its consequences They had lost five successive games in the Premiership and needed the boost that succe in the Cup can sometimes give to a team's confidence. Ray Wilkins, once a youthful talent at Chelsea and now

a young manager at Loftus licence he was allowed.

chairman that whatever happened this match would not be his Waterloo. Nothing, however, had been said about Cannon Street

Where style is concerned Rangers' hearts may still be in the right place, unlike ridden ways have lost them. several winnable home games, including their league match with Chelsea at the be-

Last night Chelsea were without Wise, their distribu-tor, and Hughes, their differbut after their third-round performances against New castle could still afford to be optimistic. In Wise's absence, however, a lot depended on Gullit and the amount of

Not that there was much time to assess this before QPR should have scored. In the third minute Duberry met

clearance and Holloway nodded the ball back to leave Hateley with a gaping goal to

Normally you would close the book on the chances of Hateley scoring in such cirfar post and Chelsea looked more relaxed thereafter

QPR's luck appeared to be following a familiar down ward course when Bardsley essential to their right flank both in attack and defence. was forced off after 11 minutes having damaged his ribs in an earlier tackle. Yet within three minutes of coming off the bench, his replacement, Maddix, had seen Hitchcock tip a header over the bar, Hateley having nod-ded back Holloway's corner.

Maybe seasoned Loftus Road supporters recognised the signs and suspected the

with just the echo of a sigh. The goal was a mixture of

sound improvisation and heer luck. Gullit collected a throw-in on the right and found Peacock who then exchanged passes with Spencer before seeing his shot take a took the ball beyond Sommer's reach.

The first half had reached stoppage time when McDonald, under pressure from Fur-long, made a mess of clearing Duberry's long ball. Spencer read the situation quicker than anybody, and as Furling turned for goal found him with a neat overhead pass. QPR were caught square and open and Furlong coolly in-

Ducens Park Rangers: Sommi Yates, Challis, Sincisir, Holloway Queshie, Impey, Allen, Hateley, Obstaces Hillman, Parking,

Time for Wales to side-step into the dark



Richard Williams

BEAR no malice towards Neil Jenkins. He is a fine and I wish him a long and happy career. But when Kevin Bowring announces Wales's line-up for the England match this morning, I hope to see the

name of Arwel Thomas in Jen-kins's place at No. 10.

For that to happen, Jenkins will probably need to have failed last night's fitness test, which took the form of a private practice match, arranged to check on his recovery from a shoulder injury. That would e bad luck on Jenkins -- who although he may not look like anyone's idea of a classical sh international outside half, has served his country with a diligence that is almost painfully visible every time he goes through his shuffling, twitching place-kicking

Yet youth must be served and it is the way of history that Jenkins, a beneficiary of the doctrine when he made his debut against England in 1991 and has since scored 419 points in 38 senior interna-tionals, may now find himself

Thomas is aged 21 — hardly a baby. He is only three years younger than Jenkins, which means that we are not talking about a generational shift nificance of the change would be just as great.

select Thomas would signal not merely Bowring's apprecia icate gifts, and of what they could bring to his overall the other members of his team to do a protective job. For Thomas does not conform to letes in most sports to grow taller and heavier. He is 5ft 7in

tall and weighs 10st 12lb. Those statistics may be in-fluencing Bowring, who is per haps mindful of the example of Robert Jones, a great scrum half in the classical style who found it increasingly difficult to overcome the handicap of his physical slightness amid

the modern power game. But Jones was less a victim of his own deficiencies than of the inadequacies of his teammates. Had he been born in the southern hemisphere, his gifts would have been shelered by ferocious farm-bred giants. Playing behind the Welsh pack, he usually found those same giants jumping on

This is, nevertheless, the best possible moment for Thomas to be blooded. He played well in the defeat of Italy two weeks ago, his 16 points giving him a momen tum which it would be a shame to waste. And England in the six months since they were beaten by the All Blacks have shown few signs of coherence or conviction.

OR all their public dec larations, England's leading figures hardly give a great impression of unity. There seem to be fis-sures all over the place: between the manager and the captain, between the captain and some of the players — not necessarily huge rifts but the sort of hairline cracks caused by the cooling of relationships. The impression is created that strategy and technique are the answer to everything. There is no

warmth, no passion. England are also suffering from several specific problems, particularly among the forwards. Ben Clarke, who will be the one player of world class in their forwards on Saturday, is having to come to terms with the demands of pack leadership while trying to sustain his own level of in-

dividual enterprise. Lawrence Dallaglio has made a promising start but Tim Rodber returns to the back row without having given any indication of a recovery from his flaccid form of the second half of last year. It may be that Mark Regan's contribution at the set-pieces will be more productive than

it was in Paris; and it may not. As for the new English halfbacks, Northampton's young pair show such potential that it would be no surprise to see them still there for the first nium. But they are mexperienced at this level and Thomas would face them at little disadvantage — a factor that might look very different a year

In order to select Matt Dawson and Paul Grayson, Jack Rowell had to prepare himself to face critics sceptical of his decision to favour a couple of unknowns from the Second Division. That took courage and vision, which is what he is there for. Kevin Bowring is new to the job and might feel not yet ready to show boldness, but the trouble with caution is that it leaves you never



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BBC hits back for World Cup deal

John Duncan

THE BBC is set to show highlights of next month's cricket World Cup after doubling its origi-nal offer to BSkyB, which rights to the tournament.

Last November the satellite channel rejected BBC's original bid, thought to be about £500,000. unrealistic.

However, Will Wyatt, the

managing director of BBC Network Television - up rights disasters such as losing the FA Cup final and Formula One motor racing — yesterday renewed con-tact with Sky which is res-ponding positively to the development. The BBC already has the rights for ball-by-ball coverage on

radio.

The development is a humiliation for Jonathan of Euro '96, page 14

sport, who has presided over the recent embarrassents and over whose head Wyatt's offer to Sky is said

to have been made. The episode comes as part of the increasingly dirty terrestrial and satellite broadcasters as the Broad-casting bill wings its way through parliament. Lord Howell told the

week's debate that Sky had reneged on an agreement to provide the BBC with highlights of the month-long tournament in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

However, Sky insiders say that in fact the BBC made one offer which was rejected and then broke off contact. The new bid will be discussed this week.

ITV and BBC share coverage

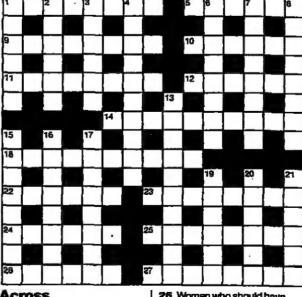


Whatever the evidence, is it right to prosecute again Maxwell and Trachtenberg whose lives for nearly four years have already been dominated by the legal proceedings against them?

Marcel Derlins 02 page 7

Guardian Crossword No 20,562

Set by Paul



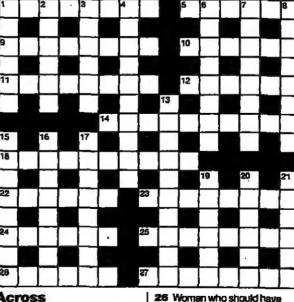
Sailor embracing non-U buddy to the last shows

5 Part of the body - the foot? (6) 9 It's O.K. for car that's

11 Rebellious Christian left out church with little hesitation (8)

14 Exact severity? (10)

24 Girl is murder victim (6)



Across

bursting? (4-4) 10,12 Magic line to north-east side of London (6,6)

12 see 10 18 Grape — one crushed by the Spanish, (it's peripheral in Seville) (6-4)

22 Car crashes a habit where there's lots of ice (6) 23 Mongrel duck is otter and another beast (8)

25 Russian fighter drops to earth initially causing

stayed pure has son lelivered, nevertheless (4,2) 27 Meat and dessert give us

1 One rarely washes the back of the neck (6) 2 it smells like marksman has been decapitated (6)

Down

4 A welcome cardiograph? (6-4 Set too high a value upon the pace of cricket (8)

7 Man being injected with restrained (8) 8 Coin is English post-

13 Often in dances I have short routine (4,2,4) 15 French and Cuban revolutionaries to different extents genuine (4,4)

16 American films always seen to have one corpse lying around the hospital (3,5) 17 University singles out what's unfair (8)

19,3 Of fair carats it could be? Of fair carats it is! (4,2,6) 20 Major highway requires

turning points (6) 21 Highly respect Paul, hero of the American Revolution (6)

chester M60 2RR Printed at the Press Centre, 2 Millherbour, Lo SNG: Trailord Park Printers, Lo Board Manchanter M77 59022 Poulaist, Gedes 1, France, for and on behalf of the Guardian and Mancheste Eventing Naws PLC. 46.462, Tuesday, January 30, 1996, Registered as a newspa-per at the Post Office ISBN 0261-3077